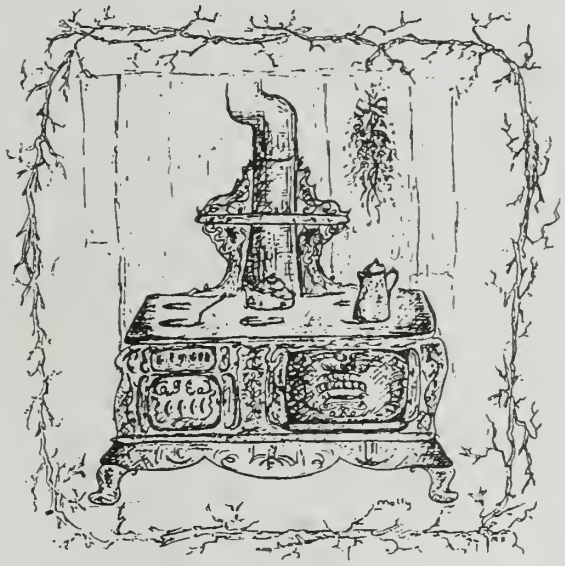
WENDELL POST



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Vol. 22 #3
Winter 1998-99

A TOWN FULL OF AWARD WINNERS

AL DIEMAND HONORED For Volunteer Work

It takes purpose and productivity to be an incredible volunteer and fundraiser, and that is just what Al Diemand has.

On November 20, 1998, Al Diemand of Mormon Hollow, Wendell, was honored by the Chancellor of the University of Massachusetts, David K. Scott, for his outstanding efforts in the 4-H Youth and Family Development Extension Program.

...read about it on page 3

MASON + INA PHELPS RECEIVE GOVERNOR'S AWARD

Gov. Paul Cellucci awarded to Mason and Ina Phelps of Wendell, and 20 other Mass. residents and organizations, the first annual Governor's Award for Open Space Protection, at ceremonies on Oct. 15 at the Esplanade in Boston.

The Governor announced that the state had met its goal of protecting an additional 100,000 acres of open space since 1991.

"All 21 of our winners are heroes in their own right," Cellucci said. "They also represent the thousands of people across the Commonwealth who pitched in to beautify their hometowns, to protect drinking water supplies, and to preserve the natural resources of Massachusetts for our families and children."

...read about it on page 3

Our Postmaster Wins Service Award

Wendell Postmaster Charlie O'Dowd was awarded the national Benjamin Award by the Postal Service in late November. Across the country, 52 Benjamin awards were given. The award recognizes leadership in improving people's perceptions concerning the postal service and honors community involvement.

Charlie has a long history of promoting the postal service and for volunteer work that has benefited countless individuals and communities. In Wendell, he has worked with the boy scouts and preschoolers. He has hosted public awareness programs focussing on environmental issues. He involves the community in preparing special commerative cancellations. He coordinates Wendell's Letters to Santa program, where children who mail letters to Santa recieve replies. Charlie has recognized many Wendell residents and boards for their volunteerism and philanthropic efforts by presenting them with special enlarged and framed stamps.

....read about it on page 3

BOO PEARSON WINS 1st PRIZE

U.Mass. University Without Walls student William (Boo) Pearson presented his poster entitled "African Cultural Transfers in America: The Impact of the Shout on African American Music" at the 38th Northeastern Anthropological Association Meetings in Maine in March. The poster had a specific focus on the influence of the shout on American Blues.

The NAA represents primarily anthropologists from colleges and universities from eastern Canada to Washington DC. Although grad students present papers often, Boo was one of the few undergrad student presentors. Under the tutelage of Marge Abel, and with the strong support of Jean Forward (anthropology), Boo developed an interesting and well received research project.

...read about it on page 3

EXCELLENCE

GOLD STAR AWARD
FOR WENDELL POST OFFICE

Postmaster Charles O'Dowd has been notified that the Wendell Post Office has been awarded the Northeast Area's coveted "GOLD STAR AWARD" For Fnvironmental Excellence.

The award is the highest award in the Postal Service's "Reach for the Stars" Environmental Awards Program. This is a progressive 3-level award program developed to recognize and encourage environmental leadership and participation in the Northeast Area's Saving of America's Resources (S.O.A.R.) Programs.

~ GET THE ~
INSIDE STORIES!

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And Town Goings On ....

WENDELL POST

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POST ARTICLE INSTRUCTIONS

Please send submissions to Wendell Post, P.O. Box 113, Wendell, MA 01379

All articles and letters submitted to the Post for publication need to be signed. If you have a computer, you can help by setting them in our style: **3 ¼" wide, 12 point font size, standard font.** Indent three spaces for paragraphs, and do not use an extra space between paragraphs. Please be brief, to share our limited space. If you have questions, call a Post staffer.

Articles: The Post welcomes signed, concise articles about topics of interest to Wendell.

Letters: The Post accepts brief letters. Remember, passion doesn't need to be mean.

Artwork: Local artwork lovingly accepted. Must be in shiny black ink.

Ads: $7.50 per business card!

Dear Wendell Post:

The planned upgrading of Wickett Pond Rd. and Plain Rd. have generated intense feelings among many Wendell residents. As one of those who opposes the project, I would like to explain my objections.

Even before the project became public knowledge this spring the town had already committed itself to it. Engineers had drawn up plans ($50,000 + worth of plans) and if the town did not follow thorugh with the project it would have to pay for the plans out of its own tax dollars. The plan did have to comply with the Wetlands Protection act as well as the Scenic Roads Act. The Planning Board did not approve of the original plan and suggested some modifications which would require fewer trees to be removed. The engineers accepted some of these suggestions but held firm with the widening of the roads to 18' from 16' and would not consider not clearing to create swales which will take an additional 6' on each side.

One thing that I like about wendell is its narrow roads; for me this is a major component of its rural character. This project, even as revised, will replace the natural beauty of these tree-lined roads with a wide, uniform, standardized road. Do we really need this?

The project is on questionable legal grounds insofar as the widening of Plain Rd. may involve a taking of Audubon property there. Widening of town roads was also discussed at a town meeting where it was voted not to widen any town roads. Without regard to these and other objections, town officials are compelled to go forward with the project or pay the engineer fees out of its tax dollars (even though legal fees for a lawsuit could easily exceed that amount--but let's not discuss that).

I am not opposed to all improvement projects, although I do disagreee with projects which are driven by the availablity of money rather than real need. I also object to engineers' formula designs being imposed on two roads which carry relatively little traffic.

I think the selectboard and the highway commission need to work harder on informing and involving the community in its long-term plans. I strongly object to deliberate exclusion of opposing viewpoints in town departments. Wendell is a diverse community and opposing vewpoints are inevitable and even desirable. We may be able to learn something if we can listen to those who disagree with us and if we are mature enough to admit that occasionally we are wrong.

Ken Holmberg

Vote on Route 2
A Bad Surprise

To the Wendell Post:

For perhaps ten years the communities around here (human, plant & animal) have been able to consolidate a bit as development--and the opposite shock, sudden loss of industry--let up. Some seem to think these fragile entities will benefit now by renewed disruption in the form of a two-barrel highway to/through their grounds.

The Wendell Selectboard went on record recently as favoring construction of a four-lane Route 2 from Phillipston to within a couple of miles of Wendell. Apparently it was to achieve consensus on Route 2 among the towns in the area.

Wendell and Erving got a promise from the other towns not to talk about extending four lanes through the Wendell-Erving valley *for now*. The moratorium lasts until present plans (more police patrols, safety improvements and the four lanes to Orange) are implemented.

All of which may happen. The Greenfield Recorder wants the full highway, but had the good grace to warn in an editorial that residents of Erving and Wendell who oppose a four-lane relocated Route 2 through their towns "should realize that putting off this issue doesn't mean it is dead." The vote thus almost giddily tempts fate that heavy new pavement won't eventually be extended through Wendell or Erving to Interstate 91.

The shock--which I felt, along with a sense of betrayal--came on the heels of (to my mind) another selectboard miscalculation: the plan to rebuild Plain Road and Wickett Pond Road suburban-style.

Wouldn't the selectboard be wiser to gather a consensus for such positions? Route 2 has been an emotionally loaded issue. Too many people worked too hard in stopping its relocation through Wendell State Forest in the 1980s to assume that today we favor it being brought as an expressway right to our border.

The board was within this understanding earlier in signing a "mutual defense treaty" with Erving. Each town will help the other fight any plans to put a highway through it. Anne Zak's work earlier, as a delegate to the Route 2 Task Force meetings, showed Wendell as what it is: a feisty, thinking community. The 4-lane vote, however, surrendered much of that: to be agreeable and settle something we essentially said it's OK to plan by degrees--piecemealing our way to a regional vision. OK to base our future on cities. And OK to threaten our wilderness later with a highway slash.

Even patchwork begins with the idea of a quilt. What is the shape of the North Quabbin/Eastern Franklin County quilt? Is its central idea really a fast, thirsty interurban highway???

The selectboard jumped on a bandwagon its constituency has showed intense interest in staying off of. A highway as a pubic works centerpiece of Franklin County today seems regressive...especially in the opportunistic fever after the death of the four young women on Rt. 2 a few months ago.

Obviously, strategically, given Wendell's basic vulnerability, it's risky to invite bulldozers just outside our door. Even if it stops forever in Orange, a superhighway will become a commuter pieline from the east that empties out at our border. Those of us who thrive on the community of things rather than the blindered pursuit of wealth and convenience should consider whether this plan serves or subverts our deepest interests.

Jonathan von Ranson

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Chancellor's AWARD

WENDELL CITIZEN HONORED:
AN INTERVIEW WITH AL DIEMAND

Al, along with seven others, was applauded for carrying out the 4-H Youth and Family Development Program Mission, which is:

"To prepare youth to become independent, contributing members of society by providing youth, families and communities with a range of supports, resources and opportunities to promote positive, long-term youth and family development."

Al, who was born on Oct. 26, 1908, in New Britain, CT, has also been instrumental in introducing the Echo Program into 4-H. This program integrates physically challenged and differently abled individuals into camp programs.

Albert Joseph Diemand bought the farm from Agnes and Leon Hartson in 1936 to provide a home for his parents. They took one look at the incredible sunset in Mormon Hollow and knew they would call it home.

Al's work experience had included a supervisory position for a plumbing company as well as working on a dairy farm and having to milk 27-odd cows to get his breakfast!

Al tells of his ancestors farming in Switzerland: "Evidently it was in our blood."

He and Elsie married on Dec. 31, 1940, and began their farm with 100 chickens and one cow. Their purpose was to be self-sustaining. They went on to have 12 "beautiful children."

Al's gold and silver plaques abound. He has also been honored for his 19 years of dedicated service as Wendell's representative to the Franklin County Technical School. He has earned thousands of dollars fundraising, collecting returnable cans for a good cause as well as building and being named for a dining hall. Al was also the Recorder's Franklin County 1996 Citizen of the Year, again being praised for his limitless energy and infinite hours of volunteering in 4-H (Camp Howe, Goshen) and the Franklin County Tech School.

"Why volunteer?" I asked Al as the rosy sun set past his kitchen window in the house he has shared with Elsie for nearly 60 years. Al was thoughtful and clear in his reply: "What are we here for? I try to reason it out. ... I ask myself this question, Will it make the world a better place? It seems that something has got to be done...." He continues, "I'm definitely sold on 4-H—there is purpose and productivity. There are many alternatives for our youth culture to express themselves in a meaningful and constructive way. This is what the 4-H programs offer."

"Purpose and productivity"—Al has certainly exhibited this and so much more in his countless hours of volunteering.

There is clearly a lesson to be learned from one of Wendell's oldest and most honored citizens.
Thanks, Al.

Respectfully,
Mez Ziemba

Governor's Award

"We could not have reached the Governor's 100,000 acre goal without Mason and Ina's leadership," said Fnvironmental Affairs Secretary Trudy Coxe. "Not only have they helped to protect a significant number of acres in western Mass., but they've set an example that will inspire many other people across this state to get involved in open space protection." Altogether, about 270 people and organizations had been nominated for the honor.

The Phelps have a history of open space accomplishments going back more than 35 years. They have purchased and donated more than 1,700 acres of land to create the Whetstone Wood Wildlife Sanctuary. They are founding members of the Valley Land Fund, which has helped to protect an additional 3,400 acres in the three county area (4 parcels containing 144 acres are in Wendell). And they have been active advisors and strong allies to several state agencies, working to ensure that wherever possible, state land is left in its natural condition.

"We were very pleased to receive this award from the Governor," said Mason. "It's wonderful to know that all our years of hard work are appreciated. We feel particularly honored to have been selected from such a large group of outstanding land conservationists." The Phelps award was in the Biodiversity category.

Other local area awards went to Pete Westover of Whately in the Town Leadership category for his work as Conservation Agent for the Town of Amherst, where he has helped the town protect more than 3000 acres of land for conservation and agriculture; to New Salem's Mt. Grace Land Conservation Trust in the Partnerships category, for forming the North Quabbin Regional Landscape Partnership, which has drawn together 35 land protection groups in order to better protect land in the North Quabbin Region; and to Jake and Kim Giknis of Gill in the Agricultural Preservation category for placing their 27-acre farm along the Connecticut River under agricultural preservation restriction, to protect it from the possibility of an eminent domain taking for Industrial Park expansion.

Gov. Cellucci also announced a goal of protecting 200,000 additional acres by 2010, with emphasis on protecting drinking water supplies, agricultural land, endangered species habitat and working forest land and the creation of border to border greenways across Mass. The Governor's Open Space Blue Ribbon Panel has concluded that the state can meet its goal by protecting 3 acres of open space for every new acre developed.

Gloria Kegeles

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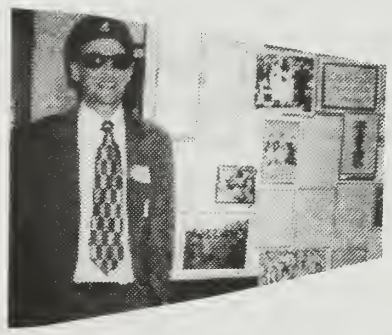
POSTMASTER O'DOWD AWARDED FOR SERVICE

Charlie served on the Shutesbury School Committee. The Shutesbury Elementary School and the Franklin Tech Vocational School were built as a result of their efforts when he was a member. He is a coach for the Northampton Youth Hockey League. He is a long time blood donor. He has donated 64 quarts of blood to the Cooley Dickinson Hospital alone. In Hatfield, where he lives, he is the chairman of the Arts Council and the Industrial Planning Board.

Charlie has recieved many service awards from the postal service and other organizations. The postal service also recently recognized him for working with people with disabilities and for promoting diversity. He was honored for saving eight people and homes from a fire three years ago. Charlie considers the biggest honor ever given to him to be when he was recognized by the town as an honary citizen of Wendell.

Charlie belives a lot of his skills and abilities come from his community service and from people he has met. He enjoys the good feelings he recieves from helping, encouraging, and empowering others.

Linda Hickman



Boo and poster at the Undergraduate Research Conference, May 1, 1998 Federal Reserve Bank, Boston, Mass.

RESEARCH Award

PFARSON WINS FIRST PLACF AT UNDERGRAD RESEARCH CONFFRFNCE

His abstract for the presentation is as follows:

Scholars discuss the influence of call and response singing techniques on the blues. John Lovell defines a crucial feature of shouts and worksongs as descents in pitch. Robert Palmer identifies the melodic tendencies as "blues notes". He attributes their presence in African worksongs to the heritage of Akan-speaking groups from Ghana, whose language utilized alterations in pitch to express emotion. Less research focuses on the shout's significance in relation to the blues. This study analyzes the legacy of the shout as a remnant of African musical concepts, and explores the intrinsic role of dance in the African musical process. Historical and ethnomusicological sources are used to investigate the possible origins and functions of the shout. Additional discussion examines its syncretic influence within the Second Awakening of Methodism in 19th century America. This research concludes with a cultural evaluation of the shout's impact on African American music.

Boo's abstract was accepted for the Undergraduate Research conference in Boston in May, and the poster was awarded first place.

--From the newsletter of the University Without Walls program at U.Mass. Amherst

MYRON'S FINE FOODS, INC. TAKES FIRST PLACE AT NATIONAL SAUCE TASTING

TAMPA, FL - Chef Myron's Original Yakitori Sauce won first prize in the hotly contested Marinade - Poultry Category in *Food Distribution Magazine's* Superior Products Award competition. Chef Myron's 20 Gauge Wild Game and Fish Sauce also won a Superior Product Award at the competition.

The national competition was held recently at the Sheraton Grand Hotel in Tampa, Florida. More than 500 products from over 80 manufacturers were vying for top prizes. A panel of more than 150 judges, comprising a cross-section of the specialty food industry including retailers, buyers, manufacturers and distributors, cast their votes in a blind taste test.

Food Distribution Magazine is a 39-year old, national publication headquartered in Clearwater, FL. The magazine is the leading publication in the specialty food industry and is read by 25,000 specialty food retailers, distributors, grocery store food buyers and gourmet/specialty food personnel each month.

RETIRING SELECTWOMAN ROASTED

WILL THE RFAL QUEEN ANNE ZAK PLEASE SIGN IN

Wendell has always had its own style. Now it may be the only town in Massachusetts to have an official Queen.

Anne Zak got royally roasted, honored and designated as the official "Queen of Wendell" at the Full Moon Coffeehouse on Nov. 7.

The evening's celebration began with our own Route 2 Bear making a special appearance and soliloquy honoring Anne, and lovingly referring to her as his "mom". He reminded us that Anne was one of the influential people in the "Save Bear Mountain" fight, and that in fact, the Full Moon Coffeehouse was originally designed to raise funds to "Save Bear Mountain"(including its bear population!).

Anne was honored/"roasted" with much festivity, creativity and humor, in uniquely Wendell style. Jonathan von Ranson read an autobiographical short story by Anne Zak, written as a part of his successful Wendell writers' group, which has now been published locally; the room was silent as the audience listened! Michael Idoine related a personal story of working with Anne. Margo Culley gave a beautiful tribute to our selectwoman of 8½ years, relating what a pleasure it was to work with Anne on the Selectboard at a job full of ups and downs. Carole Wood gave a beautiful and moving taped tribute.

The creativity kept on coming for this special event. Wendell's own songwriter, Sally Alley Muffin Stuffin, wrote, sang and led the audience in the "Ode To Anne Zak", and since this will become part of our town's history/archives, the words need to be published:

ANN ZAK HONORED

ODE TO ANN ZAK

Anne Zak, Anne Zak, the ducks in
the pond go quackity quack;
-cuttin' thru the yackity-yak
-holdin' the four-lane highway back
-keepin' the Town Meeting on track
-She's subtle as a truck-Mack
-Anne Zak, Anne Zak
...hit the floor when she blows her stack--
WHOO!!

The music continued as Karen Copeland played a drum solo to bring the musical energy in to remind us all of what an important person Anne has been historically in bringing quality music into our town, which is one characteristic for which we're well known. Anne brought women's music to town as well as being an instrumental force in the Full Moon Coffeehouse.

The finale of the night was so typically Wendell that all who were present were glad they were!! The stage was converted to "What's My Line" with the illustrious Court Dorsey serving as the MC. He interviewed the three contestants: Anne Zak #1, #2 and #3 — played by (the one and only) Suzy Polucci, Joshua "Waffles" and Karen Copeland, to find out which contestant was the RFAL Anne Zak.

In the end, the REAL Anne Zak was in fact invited on stage, crowned and declared official "Queen of Wendell" and presented with the Key-lo to the City, as well as flowers fit for a queen such as Anne. The MC ended the festivities by asking the audience to turn around and give the FULL MOON SALUTE (you had to be there

Anne, we honor your 8½ years on the Selectboard, and all that you have done with dedication for our town. Thank you thank you to the RFAL Anne Zak.

Karen Copeland

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Carole Wood
Margo Culley
Ann Zak

Wendell Aikido–Entering our Tenth Year

We are a humble dojo (class) that meets twice a week at the Swift River Elementary School gym. Since 1990, close to a hundred students have come to our dojo to learn this Japanese martial art. We have had visitors as far away as Germany and San Franscisco. Most of our members are local residents of Wendell, New Salem and Franklin County. Our average class size is ten. Our dojo is independent, meaning we are not associated with any worldwide Aikido Federation.

This past year has been very exciting for the club. In September we had a weekend camp, where three members of our dojo received their black belts or Shodan promotion. All three were from Wendell, Frank Becchetti, Paul Wanta, and Brian Jones. Bob Bauver from New Salem was promoted to Shodan a year earlier. Faith Diemand of Wendell and Travis Moise from Orange were promoted to second kyu (first level brown belt) this past Spring.

Two beginner classes were offered this year and many new students have joined. Some of our youngest members Brendan Walsh and Chris Davis both from Wendell received their first promotions. It takes a lot of courage for teenagers to be in a class of adults, and we are very proud of these young men.

Brian Jones an aspiring film maker, produced a thirty minute film on Aikido this past year featuring our dojo. This video unlike other martial art films which are purely technique oriented, focuses on why people practice Aikido. From our biased perspective it is a wonderful documentary.

Wendell Aikido has come a long way since its birth so many years ago and we would like to celebrate with all of you as we enter into our tenth year of practice. In late January of 1999 we will be at the Town Hall in Wendell. Look for notices at the Country Stores in New Salem and Wendell. Aikido demonstrations, Brain's video and other fun activities are scheduled. We hope to see you at this happy event. All are welcome. Refreshments will be served.

Ria Windcaller

My Father's Hands

His hands are calloused and worn.
Covered with sheet rock dust,
And bits of paint.
They are strong,
From the many years of work,
Yet gentle.

His fingernails are not thought of,
To be filed, or clipped, or cleaned.
The veins on the back of his hands
Protrude from under the skin.
On his left finger,
He wears a silver band.
Around his wrist is a watch,
Often set to an important time.

His hands are scarred,
No longer young,
For so long they have been used as tools.

Aubry Koehler

With this poem, Aubry won first place in the youth division of the annual Poet's Seat Poetry Contest this year. She is a student at Center School in Greenfield; her mother, Teri, works as a teacher aide at Swift River School and her father, John, is owner of Klondike Sound Co.

WENDELL HISTORY NIGHT JAN. 12, 7pm

Come join friends and neighbors at our town library for a wintry night's history lesson. Wendell's Jean Forward will be our presenter for the evening. Jean, who teaches anthropology at U.Mass., has been researching the town's history, collecting facts and anecdotes, in anticipation of writing a much-needed book on the subject.

Here at the library we often receive Wendell history questions which we are hard pressed to answer. At this point there is no definitive Wendell history source we can put our hands on. We do have a scant folder of short articles on Wendell's history which Lisa Hoag collected and donated to the library. Exhausting that, our solution is to give the seeker Jean's phone number.

From those of us in town, questions range from curiosity about the smallpox and so-called "Mormon" cemeteries to the relationship of Native Americans to this land, the origin of stone piles and stone walls, early white settlers and their livelihood, the development and demise of small milk farms and industry, local political history at the time of the Revolutionary War, Daniel Shays Rebellion participants, which of the town center buildings were moved and from where, the railroad through the Depot, and what about that 1894 Wendell Cornet Band?

From out of town every couple of weeks comes a letter, phone call or visit from an older person tracing the path of an ancestor. We can direct these people to the library's collection of Annual Town Reports which date back to 1880, giving birth, death and marriage records. Anne Hartjens can sometimes help out with records preceding that time.

In all, there is an undercurrent of interest in our town's history without much to easily plunge into. While we realize Jean cannot tell us the whole story in one evening, we are very excited to offer this opportunity to sit back and hear the stories from someone who has done the research. Thanks in advance, Jean! There will be time for questions.

The program is free. Feel free to bring a refreshment to share at the end.

Rosie Heidkamp
Librarian

WINTERTIME REMINDER

Wintertime in Wendell can be a Winter Wonderland. In terms of mail delivery, the snow and other obstacles can act to slow down delivery and cause added inconvenience to you.

Please, help us to give you the best mail service possible by clearing a path to your mailbox wide enough to let our car close enough to be able to reach out the window to open your mailbox boor.

Thank you so very much for being so thoughtful.

Jody Cole, your mail carrier

AIKIDO BY CHARLES GILLIAM

American physical culture professionals were first exposed to the benefits of Oriental martial arts training by the introduction of tai chi and judo to this country. As a person living in the Wendell-Shutesbury area who is interested in improving your health and raising your levels of physical and mental energy through martial arts training, you now have a unique opportunity to do so. You can practice Aikido-a contemporary Japanese martial art which refines the body's natural movement into supple motion and which conditions the mind to overcome stressful situations creatively. Aikido emphasizes unifying body and mind through non-violent techniques of self-defense. Participating in the martial arts will help you remove the fear of physical (and mental) harm as a factor in your life. What is it worth to you to find out what fearless really means?

First, the Physical Experience

Aikido is practiced in a dojo under the direction of qualified instructors. The Wendell Aikido Club offers instruction from Ria Windcaller and Charles Gilliam, both second degree black belts. For the beginner, a regular class involves vigorous body movements performed at an intensity determined by you. Every joint is flexed and every muscle stretched. Aikido movements involve bending and twisting, standing and falling, rolling and stepping. your Aerobic capacity is increased and your body is strengthened by the nature of the movement, regardless of your levels of practice.

Gradually, as an Aikido student, you become more aware of your center of balance by concentrating attention and directing movement from your center, which lies just below the navel. As concentration increases, your perception sharpens and your movements become more precisely timed and coordinated. Out of this vigorous physical discipline you will develop all of the aspects of total physical fitness: flexibility, balance, strength, cardio-respiratory endurance, muscular endurance, and coordination.

Through the initial STAGES of the physical practice, you, as a student, will develop confidence in your ability to handle a direct attack without fumbling. You will find that your mental preparedness is just as important-or perhaps more important-than your physical preparedness. And your studies take on an added dimension.

Second, the Mental Benefits

Aikido masters have found that the best way to deal with a strong attack is not to oppose it, but to blend with it, and redirect the attack, making it harmless. A knowledge of physical technique is not enough, then. As an Aikido student, you learn that you must refine your mental abilities as well as your physical ones. Like a rabbit paralyzed by the glare of a snake, a mentally unprepared person is no match for a determined attacker-even if you happen to be stronger that your aggressor.

As an Aikido student, you alternately take on the roles of aggressor and defender. The continual switching back and forth between these two roles will give you insight into the minds of both the aggressor and the defender. Eventually, this insight flowers into a realization that the best way to defend yourself is to understand the mind of your attacker.

During Aikido training, you must challenge your concepts, grinding away the negative edges from your attitude, so that negative fighting spirit becomes creative fighting spirit. The stress and pressure of serious Aikido training brings negative spirit to the surface and exposes it so that it can be examined and refined in a controlled atmosphere of respect and mutual study. Discovering this dimension causes you to reflect on the deeper meaning of transforming conflict into harmony.

Eventually, A New Way to Respond to Aggression

An Aikido student with secure physical and mental balance can perceive a new relationship between an attacker and a defender. At this point, Aikido becomes a personal study in direct, human relations. As you practice with each participant individually during a class, you come to know them another way-through a real *body language*. They are no longer the en*emy*. Beyond you own physical and mental condition, you discover the spirit of an interaction between two people. A third dimension unfolds.

By applying this new understanding to the conflicts faced in daily life, you acquire a deeper appreciation of the philosophical principle of harmony. In conventional philosophy, the harmony is expressed in words; in the philosophy of Aikido, harmony is expressed and explored through action. The theory is proven in practice. By the physical application of harmony, you develop a deeper understanding of the heart as well as the mind. Through practice and experience you learn to trust the real power of harmony.

WENDELL PEACEMAKING CIRCLE

On November 8 and 15, Wendell citizens and local and state police came together in a large "peacemaking circle" to discuss how policing in Wendell should be conducted. It was sponsored by the Community Policing Steering Committee and facilitated by keepers from the North Quabbin Community Justice Committee: Karl Bittenbender, Lucinda Brown and Bob Ellis.

The circle process gives each participant the opportunity to speak his/her mind and heart on the issue at hand without interruption, and thus allows everyone to hear and consider all others' viewpoints and feelings. Respect of each for all is the key to the circle process, especially when feelings run strongly.

In the first circle, citizens described their own encounters with police, and police described their fears and incidents on the job.

Some folks felt only gratitude for police assistance in crisis situations, such as the emergency room nurse who gets much-needed police protection from abusive patients. Others praised the police for their recent work reducing speeding, now that Wendell roads are much improved.

Many citizens described negative or abusive encounters with police in and outside Wendell, such as being maced, being groped while being searched, being inflicted with nerve damage from handcuffs, being treated like a criminal while lying bleeding on the pavement following an auto accident, having two black cousins, one in a wheelchair, killed by police, illegal searches from the air and at traffic stops, loud harassment, and harassment of young people.

Police described their fears of citizens using guns and knives against them, the fact that police in rural areas are more at risk than in cities because of the isolation, the fact that many people stopped in Wendell are out-of-towners who may not be as law-abiding as Wendell citizens, and encountering verbal abuse and bad attitudes from some citizens they stop. They described the difficulty in balancing their desire to protect themselves, with honoring citizens' constitutional rights.

The second circle had us all putting ourselves in the others' shoes. Citizens described how they would act as police officers, and what they would expect as citizens to have happen in an encounter with police.

Police described their own expectations as citizens and as police.

The last task was for us to describe our preferences for the level of policing in Wendell. These responses ran the gamut, with many wishing to prevent speeding but allow citizens to continue, as has been Wendell custom, to "police" ourselves and each other as only a small town can. Wendell people communicate with their neighbors, and public opinion still holds sway.

Time will tell what results come of this exercise in communication, but there seems at least to be less tension in town in the aftermath.

Gloria Kegeles

Wendell Police Log

07-16-98	Officer wanted. Mountain Laurel Mobil Home Park.
07-18-98	Shots fired. New Salem Rd. Requested officer call. "
07-24-98	Animal complaint. Locke's Village. Breaking & Entering. Wendell Country Store.
07-25-98	Arrest. Wendell Depot Rd. Animal complaint. Farley Rd.
07-27-98	Orange Court request officer.
07-29-98	Request officer call. ASAP Adjustment Corp.
07-30-98	Request officer call. N.H. #. Disturbance. Wendell Country Store.
07-31-98	Officer wanted. Mountain Laurel Rd.
08-02-98	Missing person. Farley Rd.
08-07-98	Disturbance. Fiske Pond.
08-08-98	Larceny. Mormon Hollow Rd.
08-09-98	Noise complaint. Fiske Pond.
08-14-98	Tree burning on wires. Lockes Village Rd.
08-15-98	Missing person. Stone Rd.
08-17-98	Arrest. OUI. Wendell Depot Rd. Larceny. Wendell Country Store.
08-18-98	Alarm. Jennison Rd. Assault. Farley Rd. Alarm or holdup. Jennison Rd.
08-23-98	Disabled MV. Wendell Depot Rd. Alarm. Jennison Rd.
08-24-98	Safety hazard. Lockes Village Rd.
08-25-98	Officer wanted. Farley Rd. Disturbance. Lockes Village Rd.
08-26-98	MV complaint. Jennison Rd.
08-27-98	Welfare check. Old Stage Rd.
08-28-98	Orange Court - 209A to be picked up and served.
08-29-98	Medical call. State Forest. Juvenile runaway. Stone Rd.
08-30-98	B & E. Jennison Rd.
09-01-98	Alarm or holdup. Rush Rd.
09-02-98	Deer hit. Farley Rd.
09-04-98	911 hangup. Wendell Depot Rd.
09-05-98	Camp fire. Clubhouse Pond. Suspicious vehicle. Gulf area.
09-07-98	Domestic. Wendell Depot Rd.
09-08-98	Arrest. Locke Hill Rd.
09-11-98	Orange Court needs officer.
09-12-98	MV accident. Wendell Depot Rd.
09-13-98	Unwanted person. Stone Rd.
09-14-98	Disturbance. Wickett Pond Rd. MV stolen. Lockes Village Rd.
09-17-98	Orange court has 209A to be served.
09-17-98	B & E. Mormon Hollow Rd.
09-26-98	Officer call back. Stolen MV and drunk person. West Rd.
09-27-98	Possible stolen money. Mount Mineral Rd.
09-30-98	Disturbance. Lockes Village Rd.
10-08-98	Animal problem.
10-09-98	MV broke down. Davis Rd.
10-10-98	Safety hazard. West Rd. Domestic. Stone Rd.
10-15-98	Unwanted person. Farley Rd.
10-16-98	Alarm or holdup. Jennison Rd. MV complaint. Wren Gould Rd. Fire. Bullard Pasture Rd.
10-18-98	Alarm or holdup. Jennison Rd. Assist other agency. Kentfield Rd.
10-21-98	Alarm or holdup. Stone Rd. 209A violation. Stone Rd. Suspicious vehicle. Montague Rd.
10-23-98	Officer wanted. Lockes village RD. Disturbance. Farley Rd.
10-24-98	911 hangup. Farley Rd.
10-25-98	Deer hit. Somewhere in Wendell.
10-27-98	Alarm or holdup. Rush Rd.
10-28-98	Animal complaint. Jennison Rd.
10-29-98	Domestic. Jennison Rd.
10-30-98	Assault. Plain Rd.
11-01-98	911 hangup. Mormon Hollow Rd.
11-02-98	Animal complaint. Morse Village Rd
11-03-98	Officer call back. District court.
11-05-98	Larceny by check. Farley Rd. Officer call back. DA's office.
11-06-98	Unwanted person. Wendell Store. Disabled MV. Wendell Depot Rd.
11-09-98	Vandalism. Wendell Center P.O. Officer call back. District Court.
11-11-98	Safety hazard. Farley Rd.
11-13-98	Alarm or holdup. Jennison Rd.
11-15-98	Officer wanted. Wendell Depot Rd.
11-16-98	Alarm of holdup. Jennison Rd.
11-17-98	Assault. Farley Rd. 911 hangup. West Rd.
11-20-98	Medical emergency. West Rd. Abandoned MV. Sears Rd.
11-21-98	Domestic. Farley Rd.
11-28-98	Shots fired. Sears Rd.
11-29-98	Chief call back.
12-01-98	Alarm or holdup. West Rd.
12-02-98	Stolen plate.
12-03-98	Larceny. Mormon Hollow Rd.
12-05-98	Alarm or holdup. Rush Rd. Articles recovered. Moosehorn Rd.
12-06-98	Stolen MV. Lockes Village Rd.
12-09-98	One car accident. Montague Rd.

These are the calls received by Shelburne Control. Each officer may receive calls from individuals that may not be entered into the log.

Officer A. Diemand

Jerry Eide
Hill Town Restoration
(508) 544-7864
Specializing in Preservation Techniques

FIRE LOG

#21	4\14\98	Brush Fire	131 Wicket Pond Rd.
#22	4\22\98	Med-call	Lake Grove School
#23	4\24\98	Med-call	410 Farley Rd.
#24	4\27\98	Mutual-Aid	Shutesbury
#25	5\4\98	Med-Call	11 Montague Rd.
#26	5\13\98	Fire Investigation	Farley rd.
#27	5\16\98	Med-Call	Lake Grove School
#28	5\22\98	Med-Call	126 Mormon Hollow Rd.
#29	5\29\98	Fire/Power Line	58 Mormon Hollow Rd.
#30	6\28\98	Med - call	37 Kenpfield Rd.
#31	7\11\98	Veh.Acc. Med-Call	1 Farley Rd.
#32	7\16\98	Fire Invest.	131 Wendell Depot Rd.
#33	7\24\98	L.P. Gas leak	7 Mountain Laurel Rd.
#34	36005	Well Pumpout	345 Farley rd.
#35	8\10\98	Med - Call	410 Farley rd.
#36	8\14\98	Power Wire Fire	Lockes Village Rd.
#37	8\20\98	Med- Call	9 Stone Rd.
#38	8\27\98	Carb. Mon. Inv.	11 Montague rd.
#39	8\27\98	Illegal Burn	125 Lockes Village Rd.
#40	8\28\98	Public Service	37 Kenpfield Rd.
#41	8\29\98	Med - Call	Damon Camp rd.
#42	9\7\98	Lightning Strike	West Rd.
#43	9\12\98	Veh./Accident	Wendell Depot
#44	9\12\98	Public Service	37 Kempfield Rd.
#45	9\20\98	Public Service	133 Farley Rd.
#46	9\27\98	Public Service	76 New. Salem Road
#47	10\2\98	Public Service	37 Kempfield Rd.
#48	10\9\98	Public Service	Wendell Depot Rd.
#49	10\13\98	Med Call	Depot Rd.\Plain Rd.
#50	10\14\98	Structure Fire	141 Montague Rd.
#51	10\15\98	Rekindle	141 Montague Rd.
#52	10\15\98	Med - Call	166 West Rd.
#53	10\16\98	Heating\Problem	30 Bullard Pasture Rd.
#54	10\18\98	Overhaul	141 Montague Rd.
#55	11\21\98	Med-Call	327 Farley Rd.

Our Historic Common

TOWN COMMON RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

As you drive past the Town Common this Winter, take a minute to notice the changes that have occurred in the area since Spring. The common benefited from a Historic Landscape Preservation Grant that was administered through the Mass. Dept. of Environmental Management (DEM). Funding for Part I of the project was received this Summer. The Common is part of the Wendell Town Common Historic District and is listed on both the state and national Registers of Historic Places.

One purpose of the reconstruction project is to recreate the Town Common as it was back in the early 1800's, when Center St. was a small road utilized only to access the Town Hall and residences, and when there was approx. 1/3 more grass as part of the Common. The evolution of the automobile had slowly eroded the Town Common's greenspace and changed the use of Center St. to a throughway. In addition, the edges of the grass were ragged and abused due to frequent parking. The reconstruction project also allowed the Town to address the drainage and parking problems on Center Street.

Throughout the summer, the Wendell Highway Dept. has been hard at work with the reconstruction. Center St. has been taken up with drainage systems and electricity conduits placed under it. The new Center St. is narrower with parking spaces designated on one side and handicapped parking spaces placed in front of the Town Hall and Police Station. The greenspace of the Common has been expanded and reseeded, with granite curbing around the grass to protect it from any further damage.

A walkway has been placed along the Lockes Village Rd. side of the Common to allow foot traffic to travel safely along the road and to the parking places at the Town Office Building.

The Town has just been awarded additional funding from DFM to complete Part II, which will focus on the North Common and allow the Town to light both sections of the new walkway. The Town will continue to work on Center St. as it travels along the cemetery, complete more drainage improvements, and reseed the grass on the corners of Center St. between the gazebo and the Meetinghouse. These corners also will be curbed to protect the newly created grass. The walkway will be extended down the North Common. Eight historic lights will be placed along the walkway and new lights will be placed on the Police Dept. and the Town Office Building. In the Spring of 1999, the grass on both sections of the Common will be leveled and reseeded.

The Reconstruction Project has been overseen by several members of the Wendell Community who have participated in the Town Common Advisory Committee. This group has been meeting formally once a month for the past two years, and informally for many years. They helped put the grant application together, spent countless hours discussing the new design of the Common and Center St., and spent the Summer measuring and comparing every historic light they've seen in their travels. Through research and discussion, they made most of the decisions that shaped the project.

Many individuals and groups are to be thanked for making this project possible, particularly DEM, the Highway Dept., and the members of the Advisory Committee.

Margie McGinnis

Bridge Work On Hold Again

The old bridge over the Millers River connecting Wendell Depot with rt 2A was in bad shape. I remember looking through the roadbed at the water, and the condition of the concrete did not inspire confidence. In late summer 1997 the bridge was taken down, and work began on a new larger capacity bridge.

Holes dug for the supports of the new spans reached only soft sand, not capable of supporting the design load; adequate construction required either a new design, with more supports, or deeper holes with differently designed supports.

The first choice would require more state money, and the second choice would require more money also. The contractor stopped working until more money was available State highway funds are stretched thin because of the big dig, so cost overruns outside rt 495 are hard to justify.

Orange is the lead town on this project. With luck, construction will resume in

My information comes from the Athol Daily News and from telephone convers tions with Harry Williston of the Wendell Highway commission; the public affairs director of the Mass Highway Dept was not able to return my call before Post Layout because I had other things on my mind, and did not call until the last day.

Josh Heinemann

Your new option for health care... now open!

West River Health Center

450 West River St., Orange, Mass.
(Exit 14 off Route 2)

- Fadi Baladi, MD, internal medicine - 544-1505
- Michael Azzoni, MD, orthopedics / sports medicine - 544-1512
- Orthopedic Physical Therapy - 544-1510
- Visiting Specialists - (for podiatrists call 1-800-655-5722, for all others call 249-3511 Ext. 292 for appointments)
  - Richard Genovese, DPM, podiatric medicine and surgery
  - Jon Ketchum, DPM, podiatric medicine and surgery
  - Harold Goldman, MD, neurology
  - Daniel Ervin, DO, otolaryngology (ears-nose-throat)
  - Howard Tice, MD, gastroenterology
- X-ray and Laboratory Services - 544-1500
- Athol Memorial Home Health & Hospice, a department of Athol Memorial Hospital, offering skilled nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, social service, HIV-AIDS case management and referrals -- 544-1523 for HIV-AIDS, 249-5366 for all other calls.

No matter where your doctor's office is located, you can come to the West River Health Center for lab and x-ray (check with your insurance carrier, however, for coverage).

a facility of

Athol Memorial Hospital

2033 Main St., Athol, Tel.: 978-249-3511

Your community hospital... serving the North Quabbin Region
An affiliate of UMass Memorial Health Care

Visit our web site: www.atholhospital.org

Posting Place

PARKING BAN NOW IN EFFECT

Effective immediately a winter parking ban is in effect for Wendell. There is no on-street parking allowed. All vehicle wheels must be at least 4 feet from the road and intersections must be kept clear.

Any vehicle in violation of these regulations will be towed at owner's expense, per order of the Wendell Board of Selectmen.

STORY HOUR

Wendell Town Library

Attention! Parents of young children! Look for information about a story hour beginning in the new year at the Library for children under four-years of age. This will be a story/activity time for parents and children sponsored by the Erving School Union #28 Family Network program funded by the Department of Education.

Please contact Naz Mohamed-Ahamed, Family Network Program Coordinator with any questions at (413) 659-3337.

WENDELL RECREATION COMMITTEE

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR TEEN ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

The Recreation Committee is looking for adults to chaperone teen field trips (also people with vans/large cars to drive kids to these field trips) and teen dances. If you have some time and can volunteer a few hours per month, we are seeking people to help provide much needed space, activities, social events, and ideas for local teenagers. Please consider helping us to provide safe, healthy places, activities, and social events for teens.

Please call Mez at 544-7561.

PIONEER VALLEY BREAST CANCER NETWORK

Because one in eight women is too many.

BREAST CANCER: FEAR OF RECURRENCE

Seeking works of art: stories (fiction or non-fiction), essays, journals, poetry, drawings, and photos dealing with the fear of recurrence or metastases, from persons who have had breast cancer. For guidelines: SASE to Anthology: Pioneer Valley Breast Cancer Network, 30 South Main Street, Haydenville MA 01039. Deadline for submissions: April 30, 1999.

Terry S. Gingras

Erving School Union #28
Community Partnerships for Children
Child Care Program

18 Pleasant Street
Millers Falls MA 01349
(413) 659-3337

Needed!
Licensed Family Child Care Providers in Wendell

The Community Partnerships for Children (CPC) Child Care Program is looking for people who may be interested in becoming licensed child care providers in your home. The Child Care Program Coordinator, Gillian Budine can provide you with information on who to contact and what support the CPC program can offer you.

Please **call Gillian Budine at (413) 659-3337** (a local call from Wendell) for information.

R.A.D.
SELF DEFENSE
FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

There will be a self defense class for women and girls age 11 and up. Classes will be Jan.19, 21, 26 & 28, 1998 6-9 pm at Swift River School. The cost is $35.00 for the four evenings.

The R.A.D. program is a comprehensive course for women that teaches about awareness, prevention, risk reduction and avoidance to "enhance the options of self defense, so they may become viable considerations to the woman who is attacked.", while progressing in to the basics of hands-on defense training. In the 12 hour class we will spend time discussing risk reduction and prevention, then move on to learning and practicing physical defense moves. The final session is a simulation of an attack. Simulation is strictly voluntary and students can still complete the class if they choose not to volunteer, but they must be present. The vast majority of the women who perform the simulation leave with a feeling of empowerment. Once we graduate from the class, we become lifetime members and can go anywhere in the United States and Canada where R.A.D. is offered and attend class free. This class is taught by three police officers from Umass P.D. I have spoken with several communities that have sponsored the program and they found it very powerful and interesting. The Wendell Community Policing Comm. has a grant to help pay for residents from town. The class has a limited number of enrollments, which are filling up fast. You must preregister. Call Anne Diemand at 544-6111 to register.

Jeffrey Bauman
Attorney At Law

P.O. Box 1003
Wendell, MA 01379-1003 978-544-7696

WENDELL'S ORIGINAL

FULLMOON COFFEEHOUSE

January 9
Lui Collins
To benefit Wendell Free Library

January 30
Sankai
To benefit the Friends of Wendell

February 27
Stash
To benefit Big Brother Big Sister

April 3
The Crocketts
To Benefit Good Neighbors

May 1
Klezamir
To benefit Enchanted Forest

June 5
Bob Francke
To benefit Wendell Town Hall

Open Mike at 7:30
Dessert-O-Rama
Always a Benefit!
Sliding Scale Admission

At the Town Hall
Wendell, Massachusetts

WENDELL RECREATION COMMITTEE

New Members, New Ideas— The WRC is looking to expand in people power. The commitment is meeting the fourth Thursday night of the month, 7-9:00pm. There have been some great ideas for the winter: indoor soccer at Indoor Action in Greenfield; ice skating on the ponds or at a rink, trips to local mountains to ski/snowboard, trips to InterSkate 91 to roller-blade; Hiking, biking and orienteering in the Wendell State Forest.... sound interesting? And we do want to appeal to all ages too....

Give a clal if you can join the fun.

Mez Ziemba, Chairperson 544-7561
Robert Heller 544-6933
Kristen Bernard
Anne Diemand
Ina Peebles

MEZ ZIEMBA, Chair
WRC

VOICES OF POLITICAL PRISONERS

Mumia Abu Jamal was imprisoned seventeen years ago by the Pennsylvania court system and has been held on Death Row since. You may have seen photos of him around, a familiar face, but do you know about the case? As more and more people are being held behind bars for questionable crimes, we must be aware of what is going on with the prison system in our country. It may be easy to neglect this reality in our daily lives if we don't feel directly involved, but the facts are harsh; millions of people in our country live in cells, many providing labor for a country which economically depends on the entrapment and enslavement of a class. While much of what occurs remains a mystery to we who are free, there are voices who attempt to reveal what is going on in places obscured to us.

Mumia, at age 15, was a founding member of the Black Panther Party in Philadelphia. As a radio journalist, he developed a style which brought voices of the inner city onto the airwaves. This is when the FBI started his file; he was a threat, exposing corruption of the police department and its violent war against the MOVE organization, which they later bombed. Mumia was an organizer, gathering information and uniting oppressed sisters and brothers towards activism. Mumia became a police target himself. At the scene of a crime which involved the brutalization of his brother, he was shot himself, and was charged with the murder of an officer. Though he has continuously claimed innocence and many eyewitnesses defend his innocence, he has never been given a trial in which to speak his truth. His original trial was inadequate; he was denied the right to act as his own council (dangerously eloquent?) and was assigned an attorney who was later disbarred. Witnesses who could have given testimony to support him were coerced and suppressed. He has therefore been held on the edge of execution.

It is a complex case, and it feels overwhelming to realize the extent of this problem, but is essential that we recognize this case as one which commonly occurs within our legal system, criminalizing people of lower "classes" and people of color, suppressing dissent and movements of empowerment and liberation, cutting defendants' rights, and expanding the death penalty. These are topics we should all relate to; the systematic persecution of voices and perspectives which reveal and upheave the power structure must end.

Do we forget about people once they disappear beneath the prison walls and floors? Or do we consider the situation from their perspective, knowing that injustice is something we are all vulnerable to and affected by? Mainstream media obviously neglects these issues, "behind the scenes". A few weeks ago, 20/20 aired a program "on" Mumia, which included nothing of this man's own words. Biased? NPR rarely gives words on the status or existence of his trial, although it is constantly changing, and he faces execution, possibly innocent.

Mumia has not stopped writing. I write this article hoping to inspire a few of you to pursue these questions. What is the truth behind this case? What are the truths behind the prison and legal systems? Encourage local libraries and bookstores to stock and display Mumia's books: Live From Death Row and Death Blossoms. Also his lead attorney, Lenny Weinglass' book: A Race For Justice details the case. Seek information regarding the prison industrial complex. Angela Davis is one who is researching and working incredibly hard in this area. Relevant web sites with good links are http://www.mumia.org and refuse and resist at refuse@calyx.com. There is an informative video out as well: "Mumia Abu Jamal: A Case For Reasonable Doubt?". Get facts on this case and what surrounds it.

News of Clinton's affair clutters the airwaves and distracts public from other issues which are essential to give devotion to. What occurs when certain issues are silenced? What do we not see? What are the true crimes? In 1995 Mumia Abu Jamal was ten days away from execution when massive worldwide protest forced the government to give him a "temporary stay of execution". Today, he awaits one more decision. Will he ever have a trial? On what terms will his life be decided? While the media does not offer us information of the quality and with the rapidity we need, we have other ways to seek truth. Let's not continue cycles of silence and violence. Consider, evaluate, and vary your sources of information. Confront word(s) of oppressed peoples. Help truth surface. Do not allow solidarity's execution; political imprisonment must end.

Clara Keller

CELEBRATE SOUTH AFRICA WITH OUR SWIFT RIVER SCHOOL

Each year the Celebrate Diversity program brings another piece of the world to this community and our children at the Swift River School with exciting, in-depth studies of various cultures from around the world. This award winning program taps resources from our five college area, and integrates the arts, sciences and the humanities into the curriculum for all grade levels.

This year the teachers have chosen to explore South Africa. Celebrate Diversity is designed to include the whole community. Come join in, and help to build a global connection!

We are pleased to have the opportunity to work with professor Mzamo Mangalizo, Bekisizwe, Ndimande, and Vernon Domingo - native South Africans who will be exploring their homeland's music, history, culture and the apartheid movement with all of us at the Swift River School. Other artists and instructors involved in the program include Eshu Bumpus, Gail Krutka, Erin Williams, and S.R.S. staff members; Linda Ruel, Sally Stuffin, Jan Roe, and Ed Hines.

Celebrate South Africa will run through January and February 1999. Interested people are needed. Do you have any artifacts, artwork, music, recipes, etc. that could be helpful with our South African studies? If you are at all familiar with South African dances, art, culture or geography, or if you would like to join in and help with any aspect of this enriching and valuable program, please contact Erin Williams (544-6407) or Molly Kaynor (544-7864.)

Celebrate Diversity is produced and directed by Erin Williams in collaboration with the Swift River School staff and the Celebrate Diversity Committee. The Celebrating Diversity program is funded in part by Wendell and New Salem cultural councils, MA cultural council a state agency, New Salem academy, the Business Fund for the Arts in Franklin County, the Swift River School, as well as the school's P.T.C.A. Volunteers support this program as well. This program thrives on community participation. - Molly Kaynor

SOUTH AFRICAN RELATED EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES PLANNED AT THE SWIFT RIVER SCHOOL

- January 11, 1999 (Monday) 9:00 a.m.
  (in the Swift River School cafeteria)
  Eshu Bumpus will share African stories
- February 8th (Monday) 8:50 a.m.
  Celebrate South Africa Community Sing
- February 9th (Tuesday) 8:50 am
  South African Dance- student performance

CELEBRATE SOUTH AFRICA WILL CULMINATE AT THE S. R. SCHOOL WITH A 2 DAY FESTIVAL:

- February 10th (Wednesday) 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
  South African celebration featuring student displays in the gym
- February 11th (Thursday) 8:50 a.m.
  Community Share - Student's performances and presentations related to their African studies
  also February 11th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
  The South African Festival continues in the gym at the Swift River School.

*Times of these events may be subject to change. Look for flyers and announcements beginning in January, or contact the school office to confirm.

SELECTBOARD MINUTES

TOWN OF WENDELL MASSACHUSETTS 01379

TOWN HALL 508 544 3395

Wendell Selectboard Meeting June 23,1998 Minutes Members present were Ted Lewis, Anne Zak, and Christine Heard. Also present was Marjorie Mc Ginnis, Town Coordinator and Wanita Sears. Warrant and minutes were signed. Correspondence was reviewed. Meeting convened at 7:00.

Mark Ceria brought Board up to date on well contamination and dump removal at Laurel Lane Trailer Park. Dump cleanup deadline is July 5,1998.

Penny Delorey signed Tax Collector's bond.

Pole Hearing for Lockes Village Road held. Sharon King, NYNEX attended and Board signed.

Board granted Mark Stewart until October 1,1998 to remove excess unregistered vehicles.

Board signed Chapter 90 authorization for FY '99.

CDBG Grant Hearing will be held on July 7,1998 at 7:30. Paul Rich Class IV Hearing will be held at 8:00 on July 7,1998. Plain and Wickett Pond Road Tree Hearing will be held in the Senior Center July 7,1998 at 7:30.

WRATS Oversight Committee will be appointed.

Money Management Team Meeting will be held on July 14,1998 at 5:30.

Discussion of dogs in town and anti bark collars.

Request received from Police Department for appointment of two new officers. Board will interview them July 7,1998 before appointing.

Correspondence from New Salem Selectboard regarding Swift River Construction Loan referred to Finance Committee.

Memo from John Gates, Town Counsel regarding Michael Wing licensing reviewed.

U.S. Census Bureau request for Census 2000 Committee referred to Town Clerk.

Letter from Emma Cappaluzzo referred to Town Counsel.

Invitation received from Mass Electric to storm preparedness meeting.

Letter received from Mass Electric reflecting Town energy savings.

Board reviewed and signed annual Town appointments.

Discussion of Michael Wing license conditions.
Meeting adjourned at 9:45

Wendell Selectboard Meeting July 7,1998 Minutes Members present were Anne Zak and Christine Heard. Also present was Marjorie Mc Ginnis, Town Coordinator and Wanita Sears. Warrant was signed. Correspondence was reviewed. Meeting convened at 6:30.

Rosie Heidkamp asked Board that townspeople be involved in CDBG grant roadwork. Board will reschedule CDBG Grant Public Hearing to July 21,1998 at 7:30 for housing rehab and economic development portions. Roadwork portion Public Hearing will be rescheduled contingent upon Plain and Wickett Pond Roads Tree Hearing.

Bruce Hunter, Franklin County Regional Housing Authority and Faith Lally-Williams, Franklin County Community Development Corporation attended for CDGB Grant Public Hearing. Board signed letter for FCRHA. Mr. Hunter described meeting as informational to be descriptive of Town's needs for application changes. Board asked Mr. Hunter and Ms. Lally-Williams to return on July 21, 1998 at 7:30 for a rescheduled Public Hearing to cover only housing rehab and economic development portions.

Board discussed and signed changes to Community Action Statement.

Plain and Wickett Pond Tree Hearing held in Senior Center at 7:30.

Mark Ceria discussed with Board his experiences with dump removal.

Paul Rich Class IV License Hearing will be rescheduled.

Board signed letter to DHCD that changes to Lockes Village Road will be maintained by the Highway Department.

Board appointed Kristen Barnard to the Recreation Committee.

Representative Steve Kulik will hold office hours at the Selectman's Office on July 10,1998 from 4:30-5:30. Meeting recessed at 8:45 until July 10, 1998 at 1:30.

Wendell Selectboard Meeting July 21,1998 Minutes Members present were Ted Lewis, Anne Zak, and Christine Heard. Also present was Marjorie Mc Ginnis, Town Coordinator and Wanita Sears. Warrant was signed. Correspondence was reviewed. Meeting Convened at 7:00.

Discussion of Class II License denial for Michael Wing.

指圧
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Board signed letter of concern due to highways not present to Mass Highways regarding pesticide use.

Board signed annual dog restraint notice.

Board discussed notifying State on possibility of speed limit as school zone being posted at Lake Grove School due to recent accident there.

Discussion of need to fill Inspector of Animals position.

Interest of Boston Globe to do article on Old Home Days will be relayed to Anne Diemand.

Discussion of Administrative Consent received from DEP on Jennison Road culvert.

CDGB Grant Public Hearing for housing rehab and economic development portions held. Bruce Hunter, Franklin County Regional Housing Authority and Faith Lally- Williams, Franklin County Community Development Corporation attended. Mr. Hunter discussed application changes with Board on this year's Wickett Pond and Plain Road projects. Board signed engineering contract addendum. Wendell's housing rehab will be 3 units and economic development will be $5000 administered through FCCDC. Income survey results are 56% low to moderate income resulting in high need score for Wendell.
Ms. Williams highlighted micro business development, services and successes of FCCDC and the services available to small business in Wendell.
Questions followed on the range of CDBG Grant's uses for community benefit, needs from the town in large construction projects other than roads, and use of townspeople expertise in business development.

Emma Cappaluzzo attended with Dan Werner, surveyor to show Board his surveyed boundaries along Frank Citano property. Board was asked by Ms. Cappaluzzo to honor bylaws in reference to boundary and a porch built at Citano residence.

Mark Ceria showed Board photos of dump removal and informed them of a complaint issued to DEP.

Bob Ellis, Karen Fogliarty, and Parker Cleveland attended to inform Board of the Community Justice Circle they are mentors to. Community

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Justice Circle is a program adopted by a Canadian Judge from the thousands of years old justice system of Canadian indigenous peoples. Judges Merrigan and Hodos are instituting this locally to reduce incarceration. Wendell's Community Justice Circle members will help to mentor responsibility and remorse to this community based service sentencing while monitoring progress. Board was asked for community service Town projects for this program.

Zoning Board of Appeals discussion with Myron Becker.

Letter received on budget reviews from Senator Stanley Rosenberg.

Letter received from Franklin County Solid Waste Management District regarding plastics recycling.

Letter received to participate in United Nations Day of Greater Boston.

Invitation received to attend American Disabilities Act reception on July 28,1998.

Anne Zak moved and was seconded to appointing a new person to the Conservation Committee.

Discussion of Mass Highways and one way on Center Street.

Discussion of Board needing to go check Town corner pins as required every 5 years.

Board voted to place a stop sign on Center Street. Meeting adjourned at 10:15

Wendell Selectboard Meeting August 4,1998 Minutes Members present were Ted Lewis and Anne Zak. Also present was Marjorie Mc Ginnis, Town Coordinator. Meeting convened at 7:00.

Board discussed yearly cleaning of Town Hall furnaces. Mike Anderson will do it for the same price as last year. Voted to ask him to do it.

Board discussed the Town Common construction and voted to have project and voted to make Center Street one way starting at Morse Village Road, going southerly toward the Town Hall,the westerly towards Lockes Village Road.

Board discussed speeding on Farley Road and voted to adopt the section of road by Lake Grove to be a speeding zone. Margie will work with Lake Grove to work out getting signs posted.

Board met with Janet Mankowsky from the Town Common Advisory Committee to discuss the lightposts to be purchased for the Town Common. The Board has been asked to decide which posts to purchase so that the Highway Department can capthe electric outlets created with the walkway. Board voted to buy, on hold order depending on funding from Round II of the project, the anchor bolts and templates for 8 posts. The 10' Concord poles were agreed upon. Janet will place order.

Board discussed table and chair rental request received from Ben Schwartz and approved the request.

Board discussed information received from Orange on storage trailers and decided to ask the Planning Board to meet to decide the issue on September 1.

Board reviewed letter from Gates regarding DB Landfill and decided to have Carolyn talk to Nina Keller about the accounts involved.

Board discussed support letters received from Mason Phelps to remain on the Conservation Commission and calls that they have received from previous Selectboard members recognizing the need for the decision to not reappoint. The Board members will be interviewing candidates to fill that position at the end of the week.

Board reviewed FY'99 Cherry Sheets received.

At 8:00 the Board held a hearing for Paul Rich's Class IV auto repair license.

Board reviewed a letter received from Rosenberg that announces the availability of STRAP funding. Margie will research if this money can be utilized for paying for engineering on projects.

Board reviewed Mass Prevention grant project packet received and decided to try and involve the Historical Commission on working on the project.

Board reviewed recycling grant money available. Margie will talk to Danny and Bob Leet about this.

Board reviewed Hardship Grants for rural communities grant packet received, this is focused on clean water projects, Margie has called asked about using the money for the Town Hall septic and is waiting for a response.

Board reviewed a letter received from DHCD informing us that we did not receive the Municipal Incentive Grant.

Board reviewed a letter received from FRCOG health program informing the Town of allotted health agent hours for FY'99 and signed the contract.

Meeting recessed at 9:25 PM until Friday August 7, 1998 at 5:30 PM for Conservation Commission interview and then until Monday August 10,1998 at 4:00 PM to meet with Attorney Gates in his office.

Wendell Selectboard Meeting August 18,1998 Minutes Members present were Ted Lewis, Anne Zak, and Christine Heard. Also present was Marjorie Mc Ginnis, Town Coordinator and Wanita Sears. Warrant and minutes were signed. Correspondence was reviewed. Meeting convened at 7:00.

Board discussed increase of Inspector of Animals stipend and Joy Gorzocoski's interest in it.

Board signed letter for extension on Chapter 90 funds for Jennison Road culvert.

Discussion of information received from Dufresne Henry regarding Wendell Depot Road culvert. Board approved $1000 extra expenditure for plans.

Letter reviewed from John Gates, Town Counsel and Dufresne Henry regarding Plain and Wickett Pond Roads project.

Discussion of New Salem's new Police Chief applying for Community Policing Grant without Wendell's inclusion. Ted Lewis called Mark Lewis, New Salem Selectman of Wendell's concern. Anne Zak will talk to Shutesbury involved parties for town inclusion with them.

Bid opening for Plain and Wickett Pond Roads project will be September 3,1998 at 2:00 at Franklin County Regional Housing Authority.

Rick Asman, Planning Board Chair told Board vote on new plan for Wickett Pond and Plain Roads project was voted for unanimously.

Letter received from DOR and Mass Municipal that $10,425 additional in lottery money has been awarded.

Letter received from John Gates, Town Counsel of upcoming Michael Wing pre-trial conference on Tuesday September 8,1998 at 2:00.

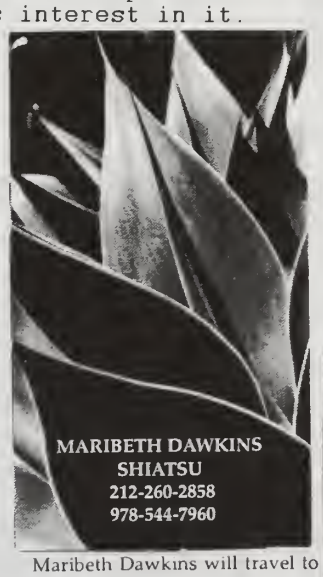
Recreation Committee will be fencing around basketball court at Town Office Park with donation from Dean Bennett.

Letter received from Ward Smith regarding Mason Phelp's position on Conservation Commission.

Board will reply to Franklin Regional Council of Governments letter that Mason Phelps is our Regional Planning Board representative. Michael Idoine will be asked if he would like to be appointed to FRCOG Overall Economic Development Program Policy Committee.

Discussion of and decision to nominate Mount Grace Land Conservation for Open Space Preservation Award.

Letter from MEMA regarding natural hazards prevention money availability.



Maribeth Dawkins will travel to your home so you can fully embody your healing treatment without having to commute.

Nini Melvin has created a technique, "PRESENTOUCH", which blends movement, meditation, and touch, based on the ancient wisdom of the five elements. She conducts work-shops, and trains practitioners and teachers in the U.S. & Europe.

Nini & Maribeth are available to give four-handed shiatsu sessions.

Public Hearing will be held for Personnel Policy changes in the near future.

Road Commission, Board, Board of Health, and Highway Department will meet in the near future for WRATS discussion.

CCC Reunion will be held August 29,1998 at the Wendell State Forest.

Town Meeting and Hearing posting places will be inside Town Offices, outside Town Hall, both Post Offices and inside Wendell Country Store. Business posting places will be both Athol and Greenfield newspapers.

Tax Collector will meet with Thomas Scanlon, State Accountant on tax takings.

Selectman's Picnic will be held August 20, 1998 with awards to those of 20 years of service. Meeting recessed at 9:00 until August 25,1998 at 1:00 in John Gates office regarding Plain Road right of way with Audubon and parties included.

Wendell Selectboard Meeting September 15, 1998 Minutes Members present were Ted Lewis, Anne Zak, and Christine Heard. Also present was Marjorie Mc Ginnis, Town Coordinator and Wanita Sears. Warrant was signed and correspondence was reviewed. Meeting convened at 7:00.

Board waived Town Hall use fee with Recreation Committee sponsorship of Shawn Daley benefit.

Discussion of engineering for Wickett Pond and Plain Roads. Board reviewed changes on FinCom's request for Special Town Meeting addition of $10,000 for Lockes Village Road culvert proposal. Possibility for STRAP or Chapter 90 funds.

Board awarded contract from bids received for Wickett Pond and Plain Roads Construction Project to Gagliarducci Construction Inc. for $420,580.

Board will award bid for Town Common lighting upon learning of delivery cost.

Discussion of Town Common Reconstruction Project Hearing set for September 29, 1998 at 7:00. DEM may award part II which is the next portion of funding.

Board discussion about speed limit posting in Town which is dictated by State guidelines and must be computed by strict requirements.

Board interviewed and appointed Dennis Harris to the Conservation Commission.

Anne Diemand discussed possibility of a pay phone being installed at Town Office Playground. She suggested Town Clerk have hours when Town appointed people can be sworn in.

Shirley White, Planning Board told Board of upcoming hearing for gravel removal by Harold Wetherby.

Letter received from John Gates, Town Counsel informing Board of September 28, 1998 meeting at 9:00 in his office with Thomas Scanlon, State Auditor.

Additional $1500 has been added to Dufresne Henry estimate for Depot Road Culvert.

Board reviewed a letter from Mahar that answered the actual FY'99 assessment,. Number is the same as passed at Annual Town Meeting.

Marjorie Mc Ginnis will attend FRCOG meeting on cellular towers along Rte. 2.

Letter received from FCSWMD inquiring if Town has municipal hazardous waste prior to Hazardous Waste Day October 3, 1998.

Marjorie Mc Ginnis will attend some upcoming trainings through District Attorney's office regarding State law for towns.

Letter received from Executive Office of Environmental Affairs regarding Massachusetts Toxics Use Reduction Program.

Farley Road dog dispute agreed by Board to be resolved after discussion with all parties.

Anne Zak will attend FCHRA 25th Anniversary on October 16,1998.

Board referred invitation for Healthy Communities Massachusetts Institute to Nancy Graton.

Board will send letter in support of not reducing Visiting Nurse funding programs.

Special Town Meeting set by Board for October 13,1998 at 7:00 in the Town Hall.

Meeting recessed at 9:00 until Executive Session on September 19, 1998 at 9 AM.

Wendell Selectboard Meeting September 19,1998 Minutes Meeting continued from September 15,1998. Members present were Ted Lewis, Anne Zak, and Christine Heard. Also present was Ed Chase, Chief of Police, and Chris Maselli, Police Officer Meeting convened at 9:00 AM.

Ted Lewis proposed that the Selectboard enter Executive Session to discuss complaints received regarding a Police Officer. The motion was approved unanimously. He also announced the Board would not reconvene to an Open Meeting after the Executive Session.

Ted Lewis recapped Wendell's experiences with hiring new Police Officers.

The purpose of the meeting was stated to be an opportunity for the Selectboard to communicate with Ed Chase and Chris Maselli.

Discussion followed with the number and kind of traffic stops that Officer Maselli had participated in since being hired in July 1998.

Discussion of a recent incident between Officer Maselli and a Wendell citizen; information and suggestions were exchanged between the Police Department and Selectboard.

Chief Chase requested and was granted more time to train his new officers.

The Selectboard asked Chief Chase to provide more supervision for new officers.

The meeting was closed with no decisions or votes taken. The Selectboard will meet with Chief Chase on Saturday October 3,1998.

Bass & Guitar Instruction

THE GUITAR SHACK

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Local References

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Wendell Selectboard Meeting September 29, 1998 Minutes Members present were Ted Lewis, Anne Zak, and Christine Heard. Also present was Marjorie Mc Ginnis, Town Coordinator and Wanita Sears. Warrant was signed and correspondence reviewed. Meeting convened at 7:00.

Town Common Reconstruction Grant Phase II Hearing held. Grant has been awarded for $52,500. $34,650 DEM with Town match of $17,850. Work will include curbing around bandstand on North Common, increasing church lawn, road walkway, and pylons for future light installation.

Board signed contracts for Plain and Wickett Pond Roads Reconstruction Project.

Discussion of Town issues for and announcement of Representative Steve Kulick's office hours in Wendell on October 8, 1998 from 12-1 PM.

Letter reviewed from DEM announcing Town Common grant award.

Discussion of relief on school spending assessments through Pothole application.

Board reviewed letter from Building Inspector on bylaw violation on Wendell Depot Road.

Discussion with Danny Bacigalupo on new cemetary landscaping.

Discussion of needed easements for Lockes Village Road Culvert construction.

Letter received from Francis Mc Donald, Attorney regarding municipal lien certificates. Board reviewed returned audit letters for address correction.

Pole Hearing for Farley and Stone Cutoff Roads will be held on October 27,1998.

Letter reviewed from DEM regarding Heritage Tree Program.

Senator Rosenberg's letter informed Board of Ed Reform Act increases for 2000.

Letter of support received from Senator Rosenberg regarding Pothole Grant.

Discussion of employment practices liability from PZ Massamont letter.

Maggie Houghton accepted Animal Inspector appointment. Board scheduled Dog Hearing at Ms. Houghton's request on October 13, 1998 at 8:30 for Jack Shea and Tom Chaisson.

Anne Zak discussed Town Hall repairs of linoleum in kitchen, painting exterior of Town Offices, chain link fence at Town Offices basketball court.

Board reviewed information received from FRCOG regarding municipal energy restructuring.

Action Forum will be held on October 21,1998 sponsored by the Greater Athol Advocates for Special Family Needs.

Invitation received to Open Space Reception on October 15,1998 from Secretary of Environmental Affairs.

Letter received from MMA regarding Pickard awards.

News release received regarding 13 new charter schools.

Discussion of snow removal insurance.

Ted Lewis will attend October 21,1998 Public Hearing for Davis Road bridge.

Special Town Meeting is October 13, 1998 at 7:00 at the Town Hall.

Meeting recessed at 9:00 until October 3,1998 at 9:00 AM with Chief of Police.

TOWN OF WENDELL MASSACHUSETTS 01379

Wendell Selectboard Meeting October 3,1998 Minutes Meeting continued from September 29,1998 Members present were Ted Lewis, Anne Zak, and Christine Heard. Also present was Ed Chase, Chief of Police. Meeting convened at 9:00 AM.

Chief of Police, Ed Chase reported that the Police Department had met and will continue to meet every two weeks. The two new officers have been on traffic patrol together twice since the last meeting. A Healing Circle is being pursued; Jack Elliot is pursuing this Ideas for training new officers were discussed.

The Selectboard will meet with Chief Chase on October 31,1998 at 9:00 AM.

Skateboarding issues will be brought to the Community Policing Committee.

It was suggested that the Cultural Council might use grant money to have signs to welcome people to Wendell and warn about not littering and not speeding. These signs would be placed at the entrances to town.

Christine Heard will ask Building Inspector Phil Delorey to proceed in the West Street dispute as directed by Town Counsel.

Anne Zak reported that Doug Turner will submit an estimate for painting the Town Offices. Lake Grove students could help with the job.

Wendell Selectboard Meeting October 13,1998 Minutes Members present were Ted Lewis, Anne Zak, and Christine Heard. Also present was Morjorie Mc Ginnis, Town Coordinator, John Gates, Town Counsel and Tom Scanlon, State Auditor. Meeting convened at 11:00 AM at John Gates'office.

Board discussed the results of Tom Scanlon's audit for tax receipts for FY'96 and FY'97. According to Mr. Scanlon, his office has received responses from approximately 550 taxpayers, with 50 of those requiring additional information. Approximately 200 taxpayers have not responded to date and he will send a second notice to them with a return date of November 15,1998. The Tax Collector in Wendell has received approximately 50 of the original letters returned and will send Scanlon a list of those individuals to avoid repeat returns. The audit still has many unresolved issues.

On Mr. Scanlon's advice, Attorney Gates will contact the Director of the Department of Revenue,explain the situation to him,and request their assistance. Gates will also research the previous Tax Collector's bond.

The Board discussed the Memorandum of Understanding with the Audubon Society for Plain Road with Attorney Gates. The revised memorandum was approved. Margie will call regarding questions for tree placement that has been brought to Gates.

Meeting adjourned at 12:05 PM.

Wendell Selectboard Meeting October 13,1998 Minutes Members present were Ted Lewis, Anne Zak, and Christine Heard. Also present was Marjorie Mc Ginnis, Town Coordinator. Meeting convened at 6:18 PM.

Board reviewed and signed warrant.

Board signed the Plain/Wickett Pond Roads addendum. Margie will send it to Kathy at Dufresne-Henry.

Board discussed the types of bulbs to go in the Town Common lights and decided on a 100 watt incandescent bulb.

Board reviewed the bids received for the basketball court fence and awarded the work to L&L Fence in Whately as low bidder. Ted will talk to both DB Enterprises and L&L to start the work.

Board recessed at 6:55 PM to attend Special Town Meeting in the Town Hall.
Board reconvened at 7:50 PM.

Board reviewed the letter received from Emma Cappaluzzo regarding the West Street dispute. Christine will send a copy with a note requesting follow up to the Building Inspector.

Board reviewed letter received from USDA regarding the FY'97 audit. Margie to call the USDA and explain that the audit is incomplete at this time and to direct any further questions to Scanlon's office.

Board reviewed STRAP grant information and discussed options. Margie will continue working on a proposal for Lockes Village and Wendell Depot Roads.

Board reviewed proposal received for new oil tanks for Town Office Building and decided to complete the work in stages as funds are available.

Board reviewed FY'98 tax receipts received from Town Accountant.

Board reviewed recycling grant application submitted with the FCSWMD. Margie will give a copy to Danny for the WRATS staff.

Board reviewed DOR bulletin regarding the tax assessing recei[illegible]

At 8:30 PM the Board held a Dog Hearing in conjunction with Dog Officer, Maggie Houghton. Also present was Jack Shea, Dog Owner and Danny Bacigalupo. Maggie presented documentation of over 12 complaints received against Mr. Shea's and Mr. Chaisson's dogs. Five dogs currently live at the location. Mr. Shea commented he has made an attempt at restraining the dogs and Maggie agreed that fewer complaints have been received in the last week. Mr. Shea also commented that the neighbors have teased the dogs. Mr. Shea, who is also responsible for Mr. Chaisson's dog, as he is the property owner, was ordered to keep all dogs leashed at all times. If further complaints are received then the dogs will be removed.

Board reviewed invitation to an economic summit received from senators and representatives.

Board reviewed invitation received to the Community Health Center of Franklin County's Grand Opening. Anne and Ted will attend.

Board reviewed invitation to the Lake Grove Annual Retreat received.Board reviewed the invitation to the Community Coalition for Teens 10th anniversary received. Margie will forward to Recreation Commission.

Board reviewed Massachusetts Trnsportation Facts booklet received.Board reviewed State Lottery Commission annual report received.

Board reviewed packet regarding electrical restructuring received from Mass Electric.

Board reviewed the responses received from legislators regarding the Home Health Care letter sent.

Board discussed the personnel policy's draft revisions and approved the changes except that they decided to change the sick leave to only 10 days per year with no accrual but with the buy back option, change vacation leave to two weeks after one year and to include a clause that allows employees with over ten year's employment with the town to receive 1/2 of their current health insurance until death.
Meeting adjourned at 9:50 PM.

Wendell Selectboard Meeting October 27,1998 Minutes Members present were Ted Lewis, Anne Zak, and Christine Heard. Also present was Marjorie Mc Ginnis, Town Coordinator and Wanita Sears. Warrant was signed and correspondence was reviewed.Meeting convened at 7:00.

Margaret Paddock reported Jack Shea's dog had gotten into her rubbish. Board urged her to report any incidence to Police Department. Board will contact Maggie Houghton, Dog Officer to advise of this violation of prior Dog Hearing order.

Board requested Marjorie Mc Ginnis write a letter to the Conservation Commission that associate members do not represent the Town and are not allowed to accompany Conservation Commission members to any site, office, or duty outside of meetings.

Board decided to discuss FinCom report from Annual Town Meeting, FC Technical School, payment in lieu of taxes, STRAP funds, Route 2, and microwave tower with Senator Rosenberg when he attends November 10,1998 Selectboard Meeting.

Board reviewed letter from Senator Rosenberg regarding Chapter 90 funds that are the same as last year.

cont. pg. 14

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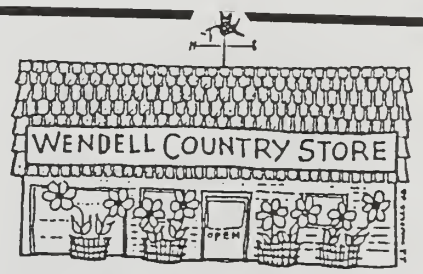
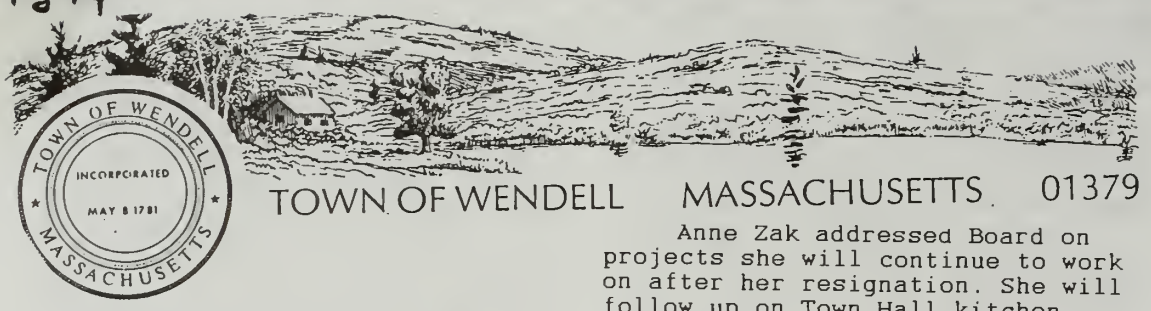


Patti & Vic Scutari
(508) 544-8646
Locks Village Rd.
Wendell, MA. 01379



TOWN OF WENDELL MASSACHUSETTS 01379

Anne Zak will attend Route 2 Meeting at Erving Town Hall October 28,1998.

Board signed Town Hall rental for Deva Skydancer birthday party on January 2,1998.

Letter received from Paul Rich regarding wood at Wickett Pond Road construction project.

Board reviewed Memorandum of Understanding with Audubon Society received from Attorney Gates.

Resignation letter received from Martina Carroll as Solid Waste Management Representative.

Board reviewed construction schedule from Dufresne-Henry.

Board reviewed letter and bond request on behalf of Lake Grove School for refinancing to build four additional dormitories. Planning Board will be made aware of this.

D&B Landfill Closure Meeting will be held on Tuesday November 4,1998 at 4:00.

Rescheduled Pole Hearing for Stone Cutoff Road will be held on November 24,1998 along with a Pole Hearing for 17 poles on Wickett Pond Road.

Board reviewed letters received from DOE regarding the year end pupil report that should have been received from Superintendent Lubinsky's office.

Notification received for Tax Classification Hearing to be held on November 10, 1998 at 7:30 PM.

Anne Zak will refer DEM letter announcing public lakes preservation grants available to Lake Wyola and Wendell State Forest for possible funding toward planned work.

Invitation reviewed to Franklin County Selectman's Association Meeting.

Invitation reviewed to Millers River CDC Annual Meeting.

Invitation reviewed to Western Mass. Enterprise Fund Annual Meeting.

Board reviewed election announcement received from Franklin County Retirement Board.

Board had a farewell party for Anne Zak on her last meeting before election with cake and gifts. Margo Culley attended.

Board reviewed Mass Buying Power information received from Town Treasurer.

Board reviewed and signed letter requesting that Lyons Brook Bridge not include sidewalks.

Letter will coming from Bell Atlantic regarding Wickett Pond Road pole moves.

Discussion of basketball court fence and payment from Dean Bennett.

Anne Zak addressed Board on projects she will continue to work on after her resignation. She will follow up on Town Hall kitchen floor. She will attend Route 2 Resolution Meeting at Erving Town Hall on October 28,1998 in support of other abutting Towns. A restorative justice Circle of Healing regarding the Police Department-citizen incident will be held on Sunday November 8,1998 in the Town Hall at 6:00 PM requested by the Community Policing Committee she is a member of. Community Policing and Recreation Committee received a $16,000 award.
Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Wendell Selectboard Meeting November 10,1998 Minutes Members present were Ted Lewis, Christine Heard, and Katharine Bentley. Also present was Marjorie Mc Ginnis, Town Coordinator and Wanita Sears. Warrant was signed and correspondence reviewed. Meeting convened at 6:00.

Board welcomed Katharine Bentley as newly elected Selectboard member to Anne Zak's former seat.

Board met with Road Commission, Danny Bacigalupo and Bruce Hunter, Franklin Regional Housing Authority at 6:00 to discuss STRAP and CDBG grant programs for the next few years.

Board discussed restrictions of maximum level of all cars and fencing to be placed for Michael Wing's Class III license in accordance with court order.

Tax Classification Hearing held at 7:30. Board signed under residential class I.

Board reviewed invitation and will attend the November 12,1998 Route 2 meeting at Erving Town Hall with legislators.

Board reviewed invitation to November 17,1998 meeting at Athol Town Hall and Community Center regarding liquor license and Route 2 issues.

Board reviewed and discussed the draft Memorandum of Agreement for Harold Wetherby permit. Christine Heard received a complaint that Mr. Wetherby was operating on a Saturday in violation of original agreement with the Board.

Board told Joe Diemand they will make their annual visit to Mormon Hollow Auto in the near future.

Board appointed Anne Zak to the Lake Wyola Board, Community Policing Committee, Town Common Advisory Committee and Route 2 Task Force as Selectboard Representative.

Board appointed Dorthee to the Council on Aging.

Senator Rosenberg met with Board at 8:15. Anne Zak attended. Board discussed culvert grant for Wendell Depot Road and asked that the completion of bridgework be looked into. Senator Rosenberg told Board Pothole funding increased 1/3 over last year and that Visiting Nurse and Hospice have received additional Federal monies. Further discussions followed of CDBG grant, Senator Rosenberg's support of Wendell's and other towns' not wanting 4 lanes of Route 2, 5 year PILOT funding , additional lottery fund assistance,ed reform, and AT&T tower on Locke Hill Road.

Marianne Sundell, Planning Board requested that Planning Board and Selectboard exchange of their minutes for communication purposes.

Board signed letter of approval from DOR for financial team and reviewed Year 2000 compliance issues.

Discussion of attendance for Money Management Team meetings.

Discussion of Police Department revolving fund situation.

Board reviewed letter from DOE and will follow up on the incomplete end of year pupil report received from Superintendent Lubinsky's office.

Board reviewed letter from DEP announcing award of composting brochures received by Board of Health.

Christine Heard will be Selectboard representative to Money Management board.

Invitation to upcoming budget meeting received from Veteran's Agent, Leo Parent. Ted Lewis will attend.

Marjorie Mc Ginnis will attend a DEP Meeting in Northampton on December 21,1998.

Board reviewed letter received of trainings and conferences available from MAA.

Board reviewed letter from Governor Celluci regarding creation of Mass Development.

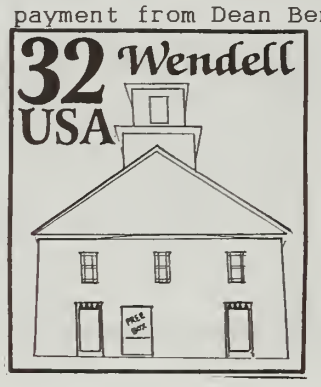
Board reviewed invitation to Cell Tower Meeting on November 17,1998.

Board reviewed invitation to Franklin County Home Care's Annual Meeting on December 1,1998.

Board reviewed invitation to FRCOG's Planning Board Public Forum on November 18,1998.

Board reviewed announcement from Dufresne-Henry of their new lanscape architecture division. Meeting adjourned at 9:50.

Respectfully Submitted,
Wanita Sears
Selectboard Clerk



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The Selectboard announces the following openings in Town of Wendell appointed and elected positions. Please make inquiries to Selectboard.
Selectboard Clerk
Board of Health
Field Driver and Fence Viewer
Franklin County Solid Waste District Representative

The Real Story

Select Board Update

The Select Board received a wonderful donation of $4,000 from D B Enterprises, Inc. This money will be used to fence the remaining three sides of the new basketball court with chain link fencing to match the south side. The Select Board and the Town of Wendell, especially all its avid basketball players, thanks D B Enterprises for their generousity!!

Recently the Select Board asked Chief of Police Ed Chase to provide more traffic patrols in Wendell Center. The Center has seen increased use with the new playground and basketball court. Speeding has become more of a problem. In early July Chief Chase hired two new officers, Chris Maselli and Charlie Ricco. These men received the standard police training at the State Police Academy in Agawam and at Greenfield Community College and began traffic patrols. Since then the Wendell Police have made about 65 traffic stops. One third of these stops were Wendell citizens; two thirds of the stops were out-of-towners. 90% of the stops resulted in warnings, either verbal or (for a second stop) written. Tickets have been handed out only after repeated stops.

As a result of the increased traffic patrols people are driving slower in Wendell. Speed limits are obeyed. Pedestrians, bicyclists, other drivers and our pets are safer on our streets.

Because of citizen concern over the increased visibility of Wendell's police force the Select Board has been meeting regularly with Chief Chase. Chief Chase has instituted regular meetings of his Department every two weeks.

Please take a moment to introduce yourself to our new officers, if you see them on patrol. They are eager to be Wendell police officers of the highest caliber. They look forward to getting to know our community and providing the services that Wendell needs.

by Christine Heard

R.A.D.
SELF DEFENSE
FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

There will be a self defense class for women and girls age 11 and up. Classes will be Jan.19, 21, 26 & 28, 1998 6-9 pm at Swift River School. The cost is $35.00 for the four evenings.

The R.A.D. program is a comprehensive course for women that teaches about awareness, prevention, risk reduction and avoidance to "enhance the options of self defense, so they may become viable considerations to the woman who is attacked.", while progressing in to the basics of hands-on defense training. In the 12 hour class we will spend time discussing risk reduction and prevention, then move on to learning and practicing physical defense moves. The final session is a simulation of an attack. Simulation is strictly voluntary and students can still complete the class if they choose not to volunteer, but they must be present. The vast majority of the women who perform the simulation leave with a feeling of empowerment. Once we graduate from the class, we become lifetime members and can go anywhere in the United States and Canada where R.A.D. is offered and attend class free.

This class is taught by three police officers from Umass P.D. I have spoken with several communities that have sponsored the program and they found it very powerful and interesting. The Wendell Community Policing Comm. has a grant to help pay for residents from town. The class has a limited number of enrollments, which are filling up fast. You must preregister. Call Anne Diemand at 544-6111 to register.

Assistance!

CHILD CARE SUBSIDIES AVAILABLE

The Frving School Union #28 Community Partnerships for Children Child Care Program provides child care subsidies to eligible families of young children. The guidelines for eligibility are:

1) Children must reside in Frving, Leverett, New Salem, Shutesbury, or Wendell.
2) Program is for children 2 years, 9 months old through 4 years old (and 5-year-olds if not enrolled in Kindergarten), of full or part-time working parents.
3) Child care must be provided in an Office for Child Care Services licensed home or center with which we have a contract. If we do not, we will contact your provider to explain our program and initiate the process to contract with us.
4) Parents/guardians pay according to their income and family size, and the Program pays the balance. Working families with gross incomes below the yearly incomes listed would be eligible:

Family of two:	$43,728
Family of three:	$45,348
Family of four:	$53,988
Family of five:	$62,628
Family of six:	$71,268.

Funding is provided through the Mass. Dept. of Education - Early Learning Services. The providers attend professional development trainings, and must work toward receiving their Child Development Associate credential or a degree in Early Childhood. The CPC program offers them an extensive lending library of toys, books etc.

Local providers with the CPC Program are: Erving: Vicki Fellows, Renee Pelis; Leverett: Amar Fuller, Wendy Kosloski, Hampshire-Franklin Day Care Center, Jean Williams; New Salem: Angela Fisher, Lisa Furnelli, Marla Haydocy, Rhonda Whitman; Shutesbury: Terry Ellis; Wendell: Tammy Richard, Louanne Soos.

For assistance, please call Gillian Budine, CPC Child Care Program Coordinator, 413-659-3337.

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Community Justice

North Quabbin Community Justice Committee
(Reinventing Justice, 270 Main, Greenfield, MA 01301)

NOTICE

Person who attended the recent *Peacemaking Circle* in Town Hall, held to discuss community policing issues, and who would like to learn more about this ancient and effective method of conflict resolution, are invited to come to the regular meetings of the Community Justice Committee. The meetings are open to the public and are held at Bethany Lutheran Church, Cheney Street, Orange, at 6:30pm

For more information about the Community Justice Committee, call any Wendell Keeper:
Parker Cleveland 978-544-2668
Susan Drillen 978-544-7169
Court Dorsey 978-544-6978
Jack Elliott 413-773-5541
Bob Ellis 413-659-3512
Karen Fogliatti 978-544-3844
Ann Marie Meltzer 978-544-7943

Community Helping Community
Local Artist Raffles
Origional Art

AN ELLIS RAFFLE(D)

The watercolor "Hooded Merganser on Wickett Pond" by Bob Ellis was donated by a local collector for a December raffle to benefit the Daley family.

This is a report of news—so late and breaking that some of it has not yet happened as of this writing in November. Stay tuned!

This message is brought to you by a tradition of tragedy (personal crises) and triumph (neighborly support) in our town.

The Community Council contributed the beechwood framing and Frames/Ink of Athol donated their labor.

The Country Store and the Library displayed and sold the tickets for the drawing on December 30.

As this was written before the drawing, the revenue is not yet realized and the winner (whose ticket, at this very moment, awaits purchase) is more than anonymous.

P.S. Please forgive the peculiarities of this piece. It is my first try at anticipating the past for a report.

Parker Cleveland

HIJACKING MORALITY

Bill Clinton, the first president who enjoyed the 60's, has just been impeached in the House of Representatives for perjury and obstruction of justice. His opponents say he lied under oath about something that just happens to be a legal act, although personally indiscreet. This impeachment came despite his approval rating of 72% (12/20/98) The day was 12/19/98. The hearings were loud and unruly like a chaotic British Parliament. Public Radio interrupted a Verdi opera to cover news in the making. Our Constitution allows us to hear the news. It also permits politicians to act as morality police whose personal value judgments supersede social welfare.

Meanwhile, Clinton's "air" campaign against the Iraqi dictator's military installations was in progress. The Islamic holy month of Ramadan had just begun. But our congress was voting on the sexual morality of the president. Is this impeachment really because Bill lied to the Grand Jury, or because he had a grand ol' time while they, the very grey striped suits, were at home or in their offices, but not enjoying spouse, partner or self?

Robert Livingston of Alabama, speaker elect of the house, just resigned. He too had a secret agenda revealed via the miraculous seduction of money. Notorious Larry Flint, owner of Hustler magazine... offered a mega-dollar reward, for information regarding sexual improprieties of those in congress acting as a judicial, morality squad. He did not have long to wait.

In Moral America, the scarlet letter holier-than-thou cadres currently control congress. Mostly all white males, they believe it is their business to judge and defrock a president because he told lies about his sexual life.

Bill and Hillary are in trouble because, to the conservative mind, they represent grown ups who rebelled against the establishment during the 60's. They experimented, although they never inhaled. Hillary was not one to stay home and bake cookies. She forewarned her public and was quickly rebuked for her honesty. Honest reality is not what the opposition dwells upon but rather on image. If Bob Livingston wants to resign and adopt an image of the repentant, let him. But he sets no record straight. He and his wife are the only ones to know how they feel behind closed doors.

If the president had admitted to substance or sexual experiments, his public could have respected him for his honesty despite preferred opposing values. But if he had respectfully, yet boldly, stood up in front of the Grand Jury, and with right on his side, refused to discuss his personal life publically, he would have set a tone for the country. Personal business is just that. Personal!

In Iraq, Saddam is proclaiming, "Victorious Again." I wonder how the Iraqi people perceive victory? Here the bombings are touted as "highly successful bombings." Sounds like an oxymoron to some. If I were an endangered Iraqi Kurd, my people on Saddam's hit list, I wonder what I would think of the partial success? Are there any Kurdish war resistors? And who is walking arm in arm with Hillary?

In the spirit of the season and for all times, there remain the words of Handel's "Messiah,"

"May your iniquities be pardoned"

Nina Keller

QUABBIN MEDIATION
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The above artwork was drawn by Ruth Sherman, daughter of the late George Sherman of Wendell. Ruth lives in Minnesota with her mother, Hedy. She is visiting for the holidays at her home away from home - the Kellers.

MEDIATION WORKS!

MEDIATION WORKS!

Anne Zak and Parker Cleveland of Wendell are among ten new mediators with Quabbin Mediation who completed thirty hours of basic training in November. During December, both Anne and Parker used their new skills to help community members work together to find solutions to their conflicts.

Anne said, "I've seen how going through mediation can heal relationships between people. It takes a lot of courage for people who are very angry at each other to sit down face to face and make their own decisions about how to resolve their problems. But the mediation process is powerful enough to create a safe environment where real resolutions can happen." She pointed out that the process is unlike situations where an authority figure like a judge imposes a decision because participants have the chance to communicate with each other and explain their feelings and perspectives, often for the first time after a conflict erupted.

According to Sharon Tracy, Quabbin Mediation's director, all participants in the November mediation training learned the basic principles and ethics of mediation and the skills needed to apply those principles to real life cases. "Mediation is voluntary, we would never force anyone to participate. It is also confidential---mediators have taken an oath not to divulge any information they learn during a case." Confidentiality is also protected by state law. "That principle is especially important in a small community like the North Quabbin region where people know each other," Sharon said.

Mediators do not make judgments about the people involved in a case, nor do they give advice. They remain neutral so that the people with the dispute can determine the solutions to the problem themselves. "As Anne, Parker, and the other new mediators are discovering, mediation works! In more than eight of ten cases, people find long term solutions. Often they leave the mediation table on friendlier terms than they would have thought possible," Sharon concluded.

MEDIATION WORKS!

BOXING CLASS

Last spring the Wendell - New Salem Community Policing Steering Comm. sponsored a boxing class. We were taught by Trooper Benoit and Sgt. Hope from the Mass. State Police Boxing team. It was quite an experience for us folks here in Wendell. There were close to twenty participates ready to learn something most of us had very little or no knowledge of at all. Doing the warmups and learning the techniques was a blast! When it came to the actual boxing match in Gardner the reaction was varied. On one end of the spectrum was a few people like me who had a hard time with the concept of someone just trying to hit me in the head, that was pretty tough to take. Then on the other end of the spectrum we had people like Sara de Rhoode who said "I LOVED it, I'll do it again!!". At the match, Sara and Hal Stowell boxed together making it all seem so real They did a great job. My nephew Peter Diemand boxed Trooper Greg DeFosse, also doing a great job.

It was a very interesting experience to take a class such as this and I thank the troopers for taking the time to share their knowledge with us. Trooper Benoit said "I found the class to be an enriching experience. I have never had a class of more dedicated students. They rose above the ability level by fighting off aches and pains of the aging process. Their effort was truly inspirational and I would do offer myself up to do it again."

I spoke with several participants and some of the parents of the teens and there was an overwhelming number that said they would be interested in having another five week session. I look forward to trying this out again yet I think this time I will decline the boxing match for the last class. The alternative will be a three minute round with a punching bag and I think that is more my style. I really do appreciate the time and effort that was given to our community by Trooper Benoit and Sgt. Hope. This is community policing at its finest.

Anne Diemand

This is my kitten friskee, She is 6 months old. If you want to prevent her from getting killed or any other cat or kitten from getting killed then go slower.

think about going slower so friskee or any other cats can live and not Die0000 so Please, go slower and help prevent kittens and cats from getting killed. this message from Leah Krutka. 10yrs. old.

BUY RECYCLED STA.

NOVEMBER 14, 1998
WENDELL, MA 01379

"BUY RECYCLED DAY" CELEBRATED

The second annual "America Recycles Day" events were celebrated jointly at the Wendell Post Office and at the Recycling and Transfer Station (R.A.T.S.) where families came to see first hand what the environmental and economic benefits of recycling are. It was very interesting to see some of the practical products made from post consumer materials that are available for sale on the market today.

Parker Cleveland, a resource coordinator at the R.A.T.S., noted that these events were being coordinated with the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District, the Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, and numerous business sponsors from all over the state.

Wendell residents joined in and "took the pledge" to buy recycled products and filled out pledge cards for valuable prizes provided by business sponsors. These included a $5,000 playground, a kayak, a spa vacation in the Berkshires, and a "Green Dream House".

As a USPS Focus Video showed award-winning "Closing the Loop" postal initiatives that recycled 80% in a large postal facility in Michigan - a number of interactive presentations were made. Andy Hamilton created a marvelous scarecrow from recycled straw and discarded clothing; Deva Skydancer's famous wind chimes made from old silverware were shown, and Postmaster Charlie O'Dowd showed off papier mache sculptures based on postage stamp themes.

In the past year, buying recycled products has been an important effort by the Post Office, O'Dowd said. The Springfield District (which includes Western Massachusetts and Vermont) purchased over $40,000 alone in recycled copier paper made from 20% post consumer content. Nationally, the Postal Service spent $160 million on recycled content products. (This kind of effort has helped to encourage the rise in the rate of recycling nationally from 11% to 27% over the past ten years.)

Tangible examples of recycled content products were distributed. The first 50 people were given special commemorative cancellations on envelopes made from 100% recycled US Currency made locally in Pittsfield by the Crane Paper Co. Others got samples of compost and pencils made from recycled bulk business mail collected in Alabama Post Offices. In addition, very practical window scrapers and envelop openers made from recycled plastic were also greatly appreciated.

Five important reasons for recycling include: (1) saving precious natural resources; (2) saving energy; (3) saving clean air and water; (3) saving landfill space; and (5) saving money while creating jobs.

Some of the upcoming envionmental events sponsored by the Wendell Post Office include: "Clean Your Files Day"; "Earth Day"; and "Arbor Day". Right now, we are actively looking for original drawings which we can incorporate into these events, O'Dowd said.

BOSTON DUMPS pg17 ON WENDELL

Wendell Citizens concerned about the illegal dumping of carcinogenic asbestos laden waste in their town are organizing to learn more about the issue. According to a lawsuit filed by Attorney General Scott Harshbarger, 38 truckloads of improperly handled asbestos containing waste were brought to a landfill on Mormon Hollow Road in Wendell that is not licensed to receive asbestos.

James R. Milkey, Harshbarger's top environmental prosecutor, was reported to have stated that "mishandling of asbestos raised a serious risk to Big Dig workers, truckers and people at the Wendell landfill on Mormon Hollow Road."

The lawsuit was filed on December 18, 1998 in Suffolk Superior Court by Harshbarger against the state Highway Department and its chief contractor on the Central Artery project for the gross mishandling of carcinogenic asbestos from a Causeway street building demolished in the Big Dig preparations.

Articles in the Boson Globe (12/19/98, page B02) and The Athol Daily News (12/19/98) reported Harshbarger's complaint alleged that 24,685 cubic yards of asbestos contaminated waste was taken from the Causeway Street demolition in 1996-97. The complaint further states that 38-truck loads of asbestos laden waste were sent to Wendell.

Highway Department inspectors gave truckers signed blank forms they were supposed to fill out themselves to certify that loads being removed contained properly sealed and handled asbestos containing materials, according to the Boston Globe.

The Department of Environmental Protection was credited with uncovering the violations which included not properly wetting down and sealing the asbestos containing waste.

An organizational, informational meeting of concerned citizens will be scheduled in early 1999 and posted in many places in town. A telephone tree will be set up. We would like a volunteer from each road in town who is willing to call neighbors to let them know about meetings. If your road goes through center of Wendell or is north of the center please contact Wanita Sears at 544-7198. If your road is south of the center call Nancy Riebschlaeger at 544-2741.

Bob Schultz of the Springfield office of the Mass. Dept. of Environmental Protection said that this illegal dumping had been investigated by that office. He said that the DEP dug some of it up and ran tests and the the material was bagged and buried. They were under the impression that personnel at the landfill did not know what was in the load

Wanita Sears + Nancy Riebschlaeger

LOCAL POETS TO SPEAK AT WENDELL LIBRARY

The Wendell Cultural Council has approved a grant proposal entitled "Regional Voices: Poetry from north of Quabbin." Sessions are scheduled from 7 to 8:30 the evenings of January 26, February 2nd and 9th, 1999, in the Wendell Free Library in cooperation with Rosie Heidkamp, librarian. The proposal calls for two sessions; the third has been listed in case of inclement weather.

Three poets published by Haley's in Athol will discuss their poetic ideas and the ways that publication transforms their work with between six and ten participants. The three are, from New Salem, Doris Abramson, *It's Time* and from Orange, Robert Collen, *Burning World* and Candace R. Curran, *Bone Cages*. Participants will be given copies of each of the three books in advance, and suggestions for reading will be offered. Poets will discuss their poetic ideas and ways that publication informs their work. Participants will be encouraged to offer their own poetry.

Abramson is professor emeritus of theater at UMass, Amherst; Collen is a retired executive of Rodney Hunt Co., Orange; Curran is library aide at Butterfield School, Orange, and two-time laureate of the Poet Seat competition, Greenfield. Marcia Gagliardi, from Haley's of Athol, is publisher.

Marcia Gagliardi

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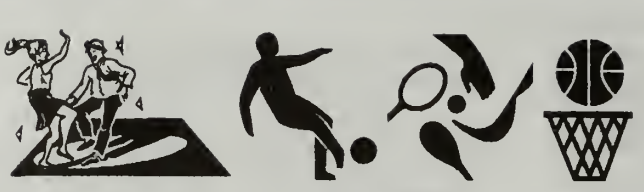

Wendell Recreation Committee

Volunteers Needed For Teen Activities and Events

WENDELL RECREATION COMMITTEE "BUILDING COMMUNITY"

Wendell Recreation Committee— who are we and what do we do? Well...

Hoopoe the Clown— We sponsored a workshop for children ages 10-13 with Hoopoe in August, the week before Old Home Day. It was attended by Vinny Barilla, Kolya Brill, Eric Dew, Sam Fide, Leah Krutka, Coco Schachtl, Emily Sears and Lillian Sundell-Thomas. These kids did an outstanding job performing a silent comedy skit and making balloon animals, both at Old Home Day and the Full Moon Coffeehouse Sept. 19 to benefit WRC! Many thanks to Chris Yerlig a.k.a. Hoopoe the Clown for his expertise and guidance. Thanks also to Gloria Kegeles for helping with the groundwork on this exciting workshop.

Old Home Day— Many Wendellites contributed monies to provide scholarships for this workshop and to sponsor the Moonwalk for Old Home Day. These good folks are: Karen Traub, Peter Diemand, Lin Diemand, Lynne Davis, Doug Tanner, Patti and Vic Scutari, Sara Schley, Joe Laur, Robert Heller, Judy and Jeff Bauman, Joe Diemand, Joe Coll and two Humble Souls who wish to remain anonymous, you know who you are! Thank you!

Then there was the raffle we held at Old Home Day— what a wonderful, generous community we live in! The following artists and other professionals and friends who donated to the raffle are: Clearwater Liberty, Treesister Art; Robert Heller, Deepwoods Software; Patti & Vic Scutari, Wendell Country Store; Ellen Maura Trousdale; Bob Fllis; Mez Ziemba; Cheryl MacLean; Gail Ainsworth/ Krutka, The Studio; Jesse Davis; Chris Davis; Lin Diemand, The Diemand Cutter; Sharon Gensler and Pru Smith, Wildbrowse Farm; Ina Peebles, Catherina's Originals; Kristen Bernard; Gloria Kegeles; Linda Hickman, Hemlock Hill Farm; Wanita and Joel Sears, Bear Mountain Traders; Claudia Pommer, Hat Stuff; Deva Skydancer, Breeze Chimes; Laura Maples, and Ben Schwartz.

Karen Traub, M.Ed., L.A.P.

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VOLUNTEERS MOVE AND SHAKE A HAPPENING TOWN

A big thank you to the above-mentioned and to Molly Kaynor, Dean and Kristen Bernard, Cassie Jayne, Marcy Jayne and Lin Diemand— your volunteerism is greatly appreciated! I wouldn't have wanted to do it without you!

The Moonwalk was a huge success at Old Home Day— enjoyed by young and old alike!

Dance and Coffeehouse— Not long after Old Home Day, WRC sponsored a dance with the Outer Space Band. A lot of fun was had!

September 19 brought Tony Vacca & Steve Leicach to the Full Moon Coffeehouse to benefit the WRC. Yummy food and great music filled the hall! Thanks to all who baked and helped out! It was a profitable and upbeat evening!

Bike Workshop— On Oct. 10, we sponsored Bob Perry from Bicycles Unlimited to demonstrate bike safety and maintenance. This workshop was attended by 6 Wendell teens. Thanks Bob!

Teen Video Dance— On Oct. 31, Robert Heller and Kristen Bernard ran a Video Dance for teens. "Smashing Pumpkins" was the group featured for this large-screen TV music video. Admission and refreshments were free. Attendance was low but enjoyed by those who came.

Yoga— An ongoing class sponsored by WRC is Kripalu Yoga, facilitated by Pru Smith. This group is open to all interested Wendell adults, teens and their friends. Small fee of $5/month. Guided yoga is from 5:30-7:00 PM every Wednesday at Town Hall. Come experience the leadership of master Kripalu teachers on audio tape and do your own practice in the company of others.

Teen Center— Along with WRC there is a group of dedicated people trying to keep the Teen Center (at the Senior Center) running. What we need is a solid commitment from about eight adults to chaperone the Teen Center on Friday nights (7-9:30 PM) on a rotating basis. We also need a commitment from teens to help run this program. Please let us know if you're interested. "You've got to come to be heard".

GOOD NEIGHBORS

Alive, but not all Well

Good Neighbors food distribution has moved to the basement of the Wendell Senior Center at the Town Offices. Every **Sunday from 3:00 to 5:00 pm** surplus food from Foster's and Bread & Circus is offered to anyone who can use it. Sometimes bulk foods such as oats, flour, or rice have been available. Since door-to-door delivery ended last August (it was too labor intensive for volunteers), there have been concerns that not everyone who needs the food is getting it. If you know someone who could benefit, please tell them about Good Neighbors, or come up on a Sunday and get a box of food to take to them.

To make this program work, we need people who will use the food and people to help get and distribute the food. If people don't take the food, it goes to animals or compost piles and it makes the people who spent their time and energy getting and distributing the food feel as though their energies could have been better-used.

The same four people have rotated all the responsibilities of this activity over the last several months (before that it was only 2 people). No Sunday has been skipped! However, volunteers are getting burned out. Occasionally they have had some help with some of their tasks, but more steady help is needed. Each weekend one of these four Good Neighbor coordinators takes a rotation and is responsible for all of the following: 1) a Saturday pick-up at Foster's; 2) a Sunday pick-up at Bread & Circus; 3) Distribution on Sunday, 3:00–5:00 pm; and 4) Clean up after distribution. The coordinators can use helpers for these tasks but Good Neighbors also needs more coordinators.

Finding two more coordinators would mean that no coordinator would have to be responsible for a weekend more than once every six weeks. A few more steady volunteers would make a big difference toward keeping Good Neighbors functioning. Gas and expense money is available. Call Laura Doughty, 544-5450, if you can help in any way—from occasional, to taking on the responsibility of a weekend rotation.

If you want to help, but have no time to give, you can send donations, made payable to "Good Neighbors" to Laura Doughty, 230 New Salem Road, Wendell, MA 01379.

Chester Clark

BROOKSVILLE, Fla.— Chester F. Clark, 82, of 900 North Broad St., formerly of Wendell, Mass., died on August 27, 1998 at home after becoming ill.

Born in Wendell, July 23, 1916, he was the son of George and Bertha (Davis) Clark. He grew up and attended schools in Orange, Mass.

A self-employed logger and lumberman for most of his life, he lived in Wendell for more than 40 years, moving to Florida in 1980.

He was a former Wendell special police officer and volunteer for the Wendell Ladies Aid Society.

An avid golfer, he enjoyed the outdoors, fishing and hunting.

His wife, the former Florence M. Williams, died in 1968.

He leaves three sons, Stephen A. of Athol; Ronald J. of Hillard, OH; and Donald J. of Wendell; three daughters, Sally A. Wilder, Judith A. Davis and Florence D. Blackbird, all of Wendell; 26 grandchildren; 28 great-grandchildren; a great-great-granddaughter; and several nephews and nieces.

A son, Chester E. Jr., died in 1974.

Services were held Aug. 31 at Witty's Funeral Home in Orange. The Rev. Edward T. Boren of North New Salem Congregational Church officiated. Burial followed in Center Cemetery, Wendell.

In lieu of flowers, contributions are suggested to a charity of the donor's choice.

Poem

Y2K
Survival Of The Fittest

Let sleeping dogs lie they say.
What will become of us
when the sleeping dog awakes
as we know it must?
Will we be eaten alive
or will we be prepared
and thus survive?
What will survival mean?
Will we be maimed and weak,
strong and confident,
or humble and meek?
Survival of the fittest
is nature's rule they say
and time waits for no man.
How fit are we
for awakening day?
There's still time
to take a stand.
We'll make it together
if we get our heads
out of the sand.

Is it better to be prepared
and look foolish
if nothing happens
or watch each other suffer
because we didn't prepare?

Rosalie

Gilbert Farmer

We will miss you, Gil Farmer

My neighbor and friend, Gil Farmer died on Sunday, Dec. 13th, 1998. I will miss him. I will look for him each day as I leave my driveway. I will also look for him on the road, driving his car. I will look for his open wave that spoke to me to slow down and stop for a while. And when I did stop, Gil would regale me with his wonderful stories and jokes.

His stories were rich and full of the life and experience which he skillfully wove into his resilient character. I'll personally never forget the telling, by him and his loving wife, Frances, of their wild day when the hurricane of "38 hit the area (a mere 60 years ago).

They both were in their car in Orange looking to fill up with gas, when the wind started picking up. The ride back to town was an adventure that took many hours.

At the time they lived on Cooleyville Rd. about two tenths of a mile from Locke's Village Rd. There were so many trees laying across the roads that it took hours to cut their way through. While they were cutting their way home, they saw the wind carrying all kinds of debris. Gil was amazed to see a large apple tree, roots and all, floating in the air like a feather.

That story was so vivid I can barely drive by Donny Ellis' field, in the center of town, without trying to picture that crazy scene.

Along with his deep love for his wife and family, and the telling of his stories, and his laughter and good nature, Gil can be remembered as a man who worked hard at the paper mill; who logged with horses; who worked at a steam generated lumber mill here in town; who drove paper mill trucks; who was a steward at the mill; who was loved by workers and managers alike; who had a deep love for his country; who loved all kinds of music, especially country, Irish, and polka; and who was strong to the end.

God bless you Gilbert Farmer,
and may the road rise up to meet you.
Your neighbor, Tom Sullivan

Since we moved here in 1990, we have had the great good fortune to have Gil and Frances Farmer for neighbors. Whenever Tom and I would be out front doing yard work, especially out planting the annuals in late spring, Gil and Frances would come pass the time of day with us while we worked, and tell us stories from their wealth of knowledge about the town we live in. It has come to be part of the beginning of summer for me. Their freindliness and good natured cheer has been one of the extra unexpected gifts that life in Wendell has brought us.

I find that I cannot manage to write about Gil, without writing about Gil and Frances together. In the eight years that we have lived here, I can't remember seeing them apart. I don't know if I have ever seen such good and close friends, as well as husband and wife, as Gil and Frances have been to each other.

Gil and Frances, I feel blessed by your generosity, your enthusiasm for all you have done together, your warmth and freindship, and your kindness and concern whenever one of our cats has decided to scare us and take a several day jaunt in the woods. I can't imagine nicer people to live next door to. And Gil, I can't imagine you being gone. I am goint to miss you.

Lisa Hoag

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GILBERT E. FARMER

Gilbert E. Farmer, 83, of 102 Lockes Village Road died on Dec. 13, 1998 in Athol Memorial Hospital after an apparent heart attack at home.

Born in Wendell, Oct. 6, 1915, he was the son of Leon A. and Bessie (Fox) Farmer. He had lived in Wendell most of his life.

A truck driver, he worked at Erving Paper Mills 28 years, retiring in 1981. He previously worked for Glenn O. Ellis hauling logs and lumber.

He was a former steward of the Papermakers Union at the mill.

His hobbies included dancing, constructing model cars and bagpipe music.

Survivors include his wife of 62 years, the former Frances M. Mulholland; a son, Edward J. of Glendale, Ariz.; a daughter, Lois Hripak of Chesterfield; a grandson; two granddaughters and two great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held on Dec. 16 at Witty's Funeral Home, Orange. The Rev. Emmanuel Haqq, pastor of Dwight Chapel, Belchertown, officiated. Private burial will be in New York in the spring.

THURSTON MUNSON AND WENDELL'S STAGE CURTAIN

by Molly Kaynor

Thurston Munson

born April 24, 1906 and died October 7, 1998

If you were lucky enough to have peeked into our Wendell Town Hall when Thurston Munson (known as "T.") was at play a year or so ago, you most likely received a big welcoming handshake, or a flamboyant bow, and then you'd become more and more mesmerized as his bird's eye view of our town common unfolded beneath his effortless brush - our Wendell's center magically emerging from his 90-year-old finger tips. "It's a view from up by Kathy Becker's house - without all the trees," he explained with a grin. If you happened to join him during his regular mid-afternoon time of decadence, you might find yourself in the middle of a philosophical discussion, and toasting to the day with an elegant Manhattan or perhaps some of Ria's homemade wine. T. was a sociable and hearty man who, even in his nineties, was passionate, elegant and flirtatious. He enjoyed making the most of everything. He said, "Civilization cannot exist without the arts and lots of time for play - otherwise there is just survival without purpose." Hence he considered Wendell to be a "highly civilized community"!

Thurston Munson died this fall in his hometown of Greenfield, Mass. He accomplished more, traveled and experienced more in his ninety-two years than could possibly fit in this story. T.'s interests and skills were varied, and although his life generally centered around the arts. He had other interests such as boxing and teaching, etc. He mixed creativity with his technical skills in his life as well as with his art. His genres in art were diverse as portrait painting and city planning. Besides being well known for his murals, portrait painting and poetry, he is recognized for his work with mosaics, metal, glass and stone. He has designed churches and large commercial buildings, and worked as a city planner for Springfield's new metropolitan center. T. was a landscape designer, and designed stage sets for notable theaters in Boston, the Berkshires, and NYC. There is much more information about T's many accomplishments at the Wendell Free Library.

Thurston Munson is one of the fortunate artists who enjoyed recognition before he died. In his twenties, he spent time in Paris where he opened his first studio. He was the longest surviving member of the prestigious Café du Dome's Breakfast group where, in the 1920s, he enjoyed the company of artists and writers including Picasso, Wilder, Hemingway and Gertude Stein. He hiked through India and Africa supporting himself with sketches of street children and commissions for portraits of notables. T. came back to New England hoping to transform the ruins of an old brick building in Greenfield called Factory Hollow into a studio for himself and other area artists. His plans for that costly project were cut short with the depression of 1930. T. and his brother Claude spent some time in the early 30s painting stage curtains with pastoral landscapes for local towns and charged local businesses for advertising space along the borders of each stage curtain painting they did. (Wendell is one of the few towns still in possession of their original Munson curtain from the early 1930s.)

Not only did T contribute to the arts as an active artist, but he was also involved in supporting the arts as the National President of the American Registered Architects; he was Governor of the Copley Society and served as Commissioner of Art for the City of Boston. Recent letters to him from Senator Ted Kennedy and Vice President Al Gore show that our friend Thurston Munson, was nominated this year for the National Medal of Arts.

Self-portrait by Thurston Munson painted in 1993 when he was eighty-seven years old.

The most sizable project he finished this year was the two thousand feet of historic murals he painted for the town of Greenfield ... and yes, despite his limited time and unfortunate interruptions with a broken hip and some other health related mishaps... Thurston Munson somehow managed to finish his second stage curtain for our little town of Wendell weeks before he died this fall. Thanks to Janet Mankowsky who patiently and meticulously did most of the lettering for the acknowledgment squares of local supporters; there is very little left to do to finish this significant project.

Three years ago Kathy Becker explained her hopes to get Thurston Munson to help us restore the tattered old stage curtain we've had for so many years in her article titled "You Gotta Have Art" in the Winter 1995 issue of the Wendell Post. It was Kathy who researched the history of our old stage curtain, and found that the artist was not only alive and well, but living close by in Greenfield. It was Kathy who took the initiative and somehow convinced that famous and busy 90 year old artist to give Wendell some of his precious time to fix the old thing up!

One thing led to the next, and a year or so later, Linda Hickman wrote an update on the story in the summer 1996 issue of the Wendell Post which explained that, after Ria Windcaller did the delicate job of mending the tears of the original curtain in preparation for T.'s new paint, it was decided to preserve the original work of art in all its faded glory. Once he adjusted to the idea of not tampering with his original stage curtain, T. said that he was flattered that our town was so protective of his work and impressed with our interest in preservation. T. generously agreed to paint a whole new stage curtain for Wendell for a token fee which was quickly raised by local organizations. History was repeated as our local businesses and interested organizations bought advertising space around the border of the new mural. It took a little word of mouth, and less than two days to fill the allotted space for acknowledements. T. was tickled that so many people wanted to support the project. He said that it wasn't so easy for the Munson brothers to sell advertising space back in the early thirties! A woman at the Smithsonian Institute who heard our story remarked that Wendell had something "extraordinary" - two works of art by the same renowned artist with a 65-year span was "most unusual" - something "Wendell had good reason to be very proud of".

Our stage curtain from the early thirties is being stored in the Wendell Meeting House which the Historical Society and Commission hope to use eventually as a museum for other significant pieces of Wendell's history. Once the stage opening in the Wendell Town Hall has been restored to its original arched form, the new curtain can hang properly for all to see. Jerry Eide, who facilitated the process of the new curtain project, is anxious to arrange a celebration soon to remember Thurston Munson, view the finished new stage curtain, and thank all of the local businesses and volunteers who contributed to this historic event!

The following businesses and organizations who have (or will soon) contribute to this project are: The Orange Savings Bank and Witty's Funeral Home, (both of whom are on our 1st stage curtain from 65 years ago!) Lake Grove School, Full Moon Coffee House, Diemand Farm, Mark Stewart Fine Carpentry, Wendell Depot Store and Post Office, Klondike Sound, Wendell Post Office, Stamell Stringed Instruments, Diemand Development Corp. Myron's Fine Foods, Dean's Beans Organic Coffee, Wendell Post, Wilder Enterprizes, Hemlock Hill Farm, Mormon Hollow Auto, Hill Town Restoration, Swift River School, and the Wendell Country Store. -M.K.

Thurston Munson's view of Wendell for the new stage curtain.

Sept. 1996 photo by our Postmaster Charles O'Dowd

GREETINGS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

The *"Wendell Post"* is happy to be in your hands at the beginning of 1999! Those of you who read the *"Wendell Post"* know that there have been very few issues in 1998. A reasonable observer might say, "The *"Wendell Post"* is a good thing, let's have more of them!" But those of us who volunteer in this effort and sit across the table from each other, notice how few of us there are and how hard it is to find time to get together. So we need more people who maybe also do not have a lot of time, to volunteer and help share the project. If there are news or events not in the pages, it's because nobody had time to put it there, not because we thought it wasn't worth it. If there's a story, call a *Post* staffer, or write it down and submit it by leaving it in the "*Wendell Post"* envelope at the Wendell Country Store, leave it with Charlie at the Post Office, or mail it to the *"Wendell Post"* at PO Box 113, Wendell MA 01379.

The *"Wendell Post"* is 22 years old! That means 22 years of volunteer effort. A couple of us have been here from the beginning, others have joined over the years. Some contribute occasionally. Everyone leaves their imprint on this living history of Wendell. Anyone can participate if they want to. It takes no special skills, just an interest in the town and a willingness to help make a newspaper. It would be great to have new *"Wendell Post"* staffers who are different ages, from different segments of the town, with different views!

Why should you work as a "*Post*" staffer? 'Cuz it's fun, it's creative, it's a way to get involved in the Town, and it looks great on your resume! The paper is an accomplishment you can hold in your hand. All this, and you can choose your own level of involvement, contribute what you like and get to know a great group of people....Wendell.

If you've read this far, the breaking news is, you want to do this! So just pick up the phone and call a staffer:

Kathy	554-5557
Stephen	544-6621
Annie	544-6111
Gloria	544-0922